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VOL. XIII. No. 43.

## CONGRESSIONAL

### PRESENT STATUS OF THE PANAMA TANGLE.

Hard Pushed by the Democratic Senators, the Supporters of the Administration Are Forced Into Scandalous Arguments—Delays Are Cropping Up That Tend to Endanger the \$40,000,000 Loan.

It cannot be said that the Panama tangle is any nearer being unraveled. All that can be said, all that is becoming clearer, is the measure that Administration Senators utter themselves, is that the Administration finds itself in a fix, and that its through-thick-and-thin supporters are themselves getting deeper and deeper into the mire. This fact appeared most conspicuously during the discussion on the Bacon resolutions.

The discussion was almost a "parlor talk." The presiding officer attempted several times to keep order in the matter of "question asked," but he gave it up at last, and things went on as they pleased. During this discussion Senator Daniel, assisted by Senators Carmack and Bacon, riddled Senators Spooner and Foraker, both Administrationists, with questions in such manner that they were driven to take a position that no other word but "scandalous" can designate.

The treaty with Colombia pledges the United States to guarantee Colombia's sovereignty in Panama. An uninterrupted series of letters, running through Secretaries of State Seward, Hamilton Fish and Evans were read, showing how obligatory it was upon the United States to protect the sovereignty of Colombia in Panama, and then the dispatches of the Administration were cited, ordering the Tennessee, A DAY BEFORE ANY RESOLUTION HAD TAKEN PLACE, to keep Colombia forces away fifty miles on either side of the railroad line, that is, outside of Panama. The spectacle presented by the Administration Senators may be judged from the circumstance that they were driven to declare that the Administration's course was obedient to the treaty in that THE ADMINISTRATION HELD A COMPLETELY IMPARTIAL POSITION BETWEEN THE BELIGERENTS! In other words, robbers enter a man's house, and the person who stands under obligation to protect the man's property acts "impartially" when he keeps the owner from reaching the robber who thereby remains in possession!

This discussion exemplifies the debates that, during the week, Congress has been the theatre of. In the meantime, amendments are being offered to the treaty, and the prospect is now certain that, at least as it stands, the treaty will not be ratified, and will have to return to the isthmus. This means, at the best, delay; and delay is the last thing that the French Company and its bribed Washington officials can stand. Every day in reaching the \$40,000,000 for the valueless property of the French Canal Company endangers the prospect of pocketing the loot.

### CLEVELAND (OHIO) LECTURES.

Section Cleveland, S. L. P. has arranged for the following lectures:  
Sunday, February 7.—"Evolution of Property." Speaker, John D. Goerke.  
Sunday, February 21.—"Attitude of the S. L. P. Towards Trades Unionism." Speaker, F. Seymour.

Sunday, March 6.—"Effect of Machinery on the Working Class." Speaker, John Kirchner.

These lectures take place at 3 p. m. at Section Hall, 356 Ontario street, top floor (German-American Bank Building). All workingmen and their friends and especially the readers of the Weekly People are cordially invited to attend. Admission free.

### DETROIT, MICH., AGITATION MEETINGS.

Section Detroit, Mich., will hold agitation meetings at Minnehatch's Hall, 273 Gratiot avenue, on the following Sunday afternoons, at 2:30 p. m., and extends an invitation to all to attend. Free discussion, open to all. The subjects and lectures are:

January 24.—"Can Pure and Simple Trade Unions Solve the Labor Problem?" Speaker, M. Meyer.  
January 31.—"Socialism vs. Capitalism." Speaker, George Häseler.

### THE LABOR PROBLEM.

Charles H. Corrigan spoke, by request, at a meeting of the Progressive Cigarette Makers' Union, a labor organization affiliated with the United Hebrew Trades, that has no connection with the national tobacco workers, on Friday evening. His subject was, "The Labor Problem." About 300 members were present, and his remarks were favorably received.

# WEEKLY PEOPLE

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## SOCIAL EVOLUTION

(Concluded From Last Week.)

While the history of the development of religion practically forms an entire phase of the development of man, as does the growth of the family, of the idea of justice, etc.; nevertheless in this connection it is not amiss to say a few words of the Catholic Church. It arose as a religio-economic institution, it was primarily a feudal lord, and the most powerful one in all Europe, at that. The churches and monasteries were manors, and houses of refuge, around which people centered and into which they went for protection. The church extracted its fees, as well as the other lords, and it has been estimated that at the time of the Reformation one-third of the soil of Europe was under direct or indirect control of the church. The early bishops and archbishops were warriors, who led their bands against all intruders. While the church showed all the faculties of grasping and oppression ever developed in a feudal lord, yet the ecclesiastic system rendered its own peculiar service to human progress. The nobility built up the new order, but the church, besides aiding in this, also preserved what was worth preserving from the old. Had it not done so, much hard-gained experience might have had to be gone over again by the race. The mission to progress, fulfilled by the Roman empire, was that of organization—governmental, military and judicial. In organization it surpassed all previous experiences of mankind. Now, the feudal system was in itself a disunion dominated by the petty interests of one lord as against all the rest. The church alone was one and indivisible in every state and nation. Its head was Rome, the ancient center of unity. Through it was preserved and transmitted as they developed, the magnificent idea of unity, of action, of organization, of loyalty and obedience to the commonwealth which had been fostered, though abused, in the ancients. Moreover, what was rescued of ancient art and learning was done so by

the church, and the Renaissance came through its learned men. It would be a greatly mistaken idea that an institution once so dominant as the Catholic Church could ever grow and develop unless it had a definite and useful purpose to fulfill in the progress of humanity.

It was the mission of the feudal system to bring order out of chaos and develop agriculture and give an impulse to trade; it was the mission of the Catholic Church to aid in this and also to transmit to the future the experience, art and learning of the past. These objects fulfilled, the mission of either in the history of man's progress was ended. From that very instant they became outgrown institutions, which, however, still continued to draw their nourishment from society; in other words, they became parasites.

That the church, toward the close of medieval society, absolutely abused its power even the most orthodox cannot dare to deny. The monasteries and cloisters, so far from being places of protection, were houses of crime, voluptuousness and disorder; so far from being centers of learning they were centers of gluttony, sensuality and riotous life. The bishops and archbishops were political tricksters, who very often did not hesitate at any crime to carry their point, and nearly every petty priest had his own little axe of material self-interest to grind.

In turn, the nobles having developed into useless parasites, became the most bloodsucking of their kind. Having organized the band of peasants under their protection against intruders, they soon became the intruders themselves. Not satisfied to extract a limited amount of the serfs' labor, they became exorbitant in their demands, and what they could not obtain by virtue of agreement they took by main force. They became the terror of their serfs and peasants, not only as concerned material things, but neither home, nor virtue, nor life itself was regarded by these brigands. The life of a peasant was not as much regarded as that of the game on the hunting ground.

The history of the criminality of the medieval forms a far blacker page of man's history than that of the cruelty of any savage tribe. The savages practised fearful cruelty, it is true, but it was towards enemies, towards those who infringed on their rights, those who threatened their wives and children. It was the law of self-preservation which dictated it. On the other hand, the nobles abused and maltreated those out of whom and whose parents they and their ancestors had drawn their sustenance for several centuries. It was the inherent love of power, cruelty and wickedness that dictated their acts.

Had human progress depended upon these classes—the nobles, the priests or the oppressed and downtrodden peasantry—it would again have approached a dark period. The priest and nobles were all powerful, and the land, the all-important means of life, was theirs. The oppressed were servile and slavish to the full meaning of the term. They were meek and humble, stooping and obedient, ready to kiss the rod and to offer up their son's life or their daughter's virtue.

However, there was something taking place in society behind the backs of the riotous nobles and the voluptuous priests. What was it? It was the new and wonderful discoveries in science; it was the discovery of a new world, the discovery of new modes of travel by land and water; the discovery of new tools of production, tools which, in the fullness of time, grew into machines; the advent of new motive powers—it was, in short, the dying importance of the land as the all-important means of life and the growing importance of the tools of production.

This in turn brought into social and historic importance a new class, a class, it is true, that had existed in embryo since the very first appearance of ancient civilization, but which had hitherto played no historic part; in fact, had been despised and only tolerated as a sort of a necessary evil, namely, the trading and manufacturing class, known in the middle ages as the burghers or bourgeoisie.

The history of the rise into historic importance of this class is a history of conflicts between it and the land holders. The first portion of these that lost ground was the church. Behind the Reformation stood an economic necessity. The land and other tremendous wealth in the church's possession had to be wrenched from it in order for the trading class to develop. State Protestantism took its place. This belongs, as a dominant and historic institution, to the period intermediate between the height of feudalism and the capitalist revolutions, the period of petty conflict between the two, when one declines the other rises. It is then for the first time in human history that absolute monarchy arises. By aid of the national Protestant church, whose head was the king, the absolute monarchs of the middle ages held themselves up, balancing themselves, so to speak, between the two great conflicting classes, the burghers and the nobles. The one was pitted against the other, and yet the king held the equilibrium, and for several centuries the grand conflict was staved off.

In the meantime, inventions and discoveries were rapid. The towns grew large, the burghers wealthy. They formed compact societies in their guilds, and a keen, craft interest was developed which, in the struggle with the nobles, easily expanded into class interest. The nobles, being the ruling class, held the political powers, and it was about this that the conquest centered. In order for the capitalist system to develop, in order for the petty trader to expand into an opulent capitalist, the class of bourgeois had of necessity to enter into the government of nations. But two classes with conflicting interests can never rule at once, consequently, though the bourgeois conservatively requested only "representation" in the government, the nobles contested every inch of ground they gained, as well, by every measure they might force the king to grant in their interest. Therefore, though few were the minds that realized what was drawing near, the clash was inevitable. By that time

the bourgeois was rich and powerful, arrogant and progressive, while the nobles were becoming financially bankrupt, and very often mentally and physically so, too. Nevertheless, a mailed knight in battle was as good as an army of unarmed men. Therefore, it required epoch-making inventions to make a man out of any man on the battlefield, namely, that of gunpowder and firearms. Then the physical force of the nobility was broken. The bourgeois could arm for resistance. They did arm themselves. They armed, moreover, the mass of propertyless humanity, the oppressed and downtrodden classes that had nothing to gain by the change, but who, nevertheless, with the true instinct of humanity, fought like heroes on the battlefield of human progress.

The principal battlegrounds of the capitalist revolution were England, United States and France. In Germany, in 1848, the revolution was defeated, but nevertheless the very attempt broke the backbone of the nobility; and since then the spirit of capitalism has been, and still is, gradually working into the government through back doors and side entrances, so to speak. In the minor countries of Europe and America, in fact of the entire globe, similar processes are taking place.

It is safe to say that to-day, our world is a capitalist world. The spirit of trade and manufacture sways the actions of every government, dictates peace and war, rules public opinion, prescribes manners and customs, laws and ideas—yes, religion itself. Capital is the general, the judge the king, the priest—yes, the omnipotent God.

But, in the obscurity of Social Revolution, a new class has been created and has gathered force, the new class of progress, the historic class of the future—namely, the industrial proletariat, the wage-working class. It has but one aim—the Coming Revolution. It has but one hope—Socialism.

(The next article by Mrs. Johnson will have "The Development of Capitalism" for its subject.)

Written for The People  
by Mrs. Olive M. Johnson

## "SANITY AT FRESNO"

CAPITALISTS APPLAUD CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF LABOR.

Its "Conservative Action" In Debarring Working Class Politics In Unions Just What They Want—"Borers from Within" Bored Out—Conditions in 'Frisco.

[Special Correspondence To The People.] San Francisco, Jan. 11.—The fourth annual convention of the "California State Federation of Labor" was held in Fresno last week, beginning on January 4 and continuing in session five days. The principal question under discussion was the much-mooted one of "politics in the unions." After a heated debate it was decided that the federation remain aloof from politics as an organization. So-called socialism and the "borers from within" were in great disrepute. G. S. Brower, the head of the kang ticket in the last election, and a skilled "borer," ran for several offices and was defeated in every case, although a full list of officials was elected. The San Francisco Chronicle came out with an editorial headed: "Sanity Prevails at Fresno," in which this "conservative action" was greatly approved.

The labor situation in San Francisco has changed very little since last month. The difference between the Stableners' Union and the Livery and Carriage Owners' Association was last week referred to the "Labor Council," which decided not to endorse the demands of the union. The dispute was in regard to the kind and amount of labor to be performed rather than the wages to be paid. It is not yet known whether or not the stableners will submit quietly to the decision of the "Council."

The contemplated strike of the Pressmen's and Feeders' Unions against the Mutual Lithograph Company is now under arbitration. All the Market street boycotts are still in full force. By day they content themselves with lifting up the voices of four or five pickets apiece; but in the evening, they rival the small shows and cheap theatres in spectacular effect. A unique procession in front of one of the condemned cloak and suit houses attracted general attention and admiration. A band of men marches round and round in a circle between the car track and the sidewalk, each carrying a transparency with an appropriate legend. These legends piece together to form a continued sentence, and the dissected puzzle gives entertainment and instruction to ingenious loafers and policemen. The accusations on these banners are as true as they are harsh, but, sad to say, most of them might be applied to every manufactory in the country, probably in the world.

In the midst of all this struggle and display the S. L. P. men find plenty to do. Our street meetings are well attended and the demand for S. L. P. papers and literature increases. Comrade Pierson arrived in Los Angeles on the 1st inst. and we expect him in San Francisco to-night. The Los Angeles press made material out of the bogus accounts of his Texas experience, and reported his Sunday evening lecture in that city as a "violent speech" against the "agents of the law." We are looking forward with much pleasure to hearing some of his so-called violence in San Francisco.

### RATHKOPF IN PATERSON, N. J.

A free public lecture will be held under the auspices of the Passaic County Section, at Helvetia Hall, on Sunday, January 24, at 2:30 p. m. Subject: "Workers—Their Rights." Charles A. Rathkopf.

Readers of The People and sympathizers of the Social Labor Party are invited to attend and bring their friends.

### EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL., LECTURES.

Section East St. Louis will hold agitation meetings every Sunday at 2:30 p. m., at Lantz Hall, Fifth and Missouri avenue.

January 24.—"Social Revolution," C. A. Johnson.

January 31.—"The Class Struggle," Henry Poelling.

February 7.—"Wage Labor and Capital," J. W. Johnson.

C. A. Johnson, Organizer.

eenth Brumaire," by blanketing them they both deaden the taste to travel in such path, and the spirit that such works evoke—and that is harmful. So far, the best explanation and elaboration of the Communist Manifesto is Marx's "Eighteenth Brumaire." Not in Labriola, but in that work of Marx's, let the student dip if he wishes to bathe his earthly breast in the ruddy glow of Socialist philosophy.

Labriola's work covers 245 pages. Price 85.

## BOOK REVIEWS

The above two books have just been issued by the Chicago firm of Charles H. Kerr & Company and both are excellent translations from the French by Charles H. Kerr.

As to the first, "The Sale of An Appetite," it is conceived and carried out in the happiest vein of Paul Lafargue. Lafargue's forte is satire. Those who are familiar with his "Religion of Capital" may form an idea of his "Sale of An Appetite." As a nickname will not stick unless it illuminates a fact, neither will satire. Lafargue's economic soundness makes his arrows fly unerringly to their destination. Proceeding from and freighted with fact, they illumine the fact itself. Lafargue's satires thus are brilliant economic and sociologic treatises—they have hands, feet, and backbone and teeth.

A few words to explain the "plot" of the story will help to render intelligible the below two passages taken from the book. A capitalist, who suffers from overfeeding, runs across a poor devil who suffers from underfeeding. The capitalist arranges with him to buy his appetite. The below are two striking passages in the argument used by the capitalist:

"You complain because you have been reduced to becoming nothing but a digestive apparatus; but all who earn their living by working are lodged at the same sign. They obtain their means of existence only by confining themselves to being nothing but an organ functioning to the profit of another; the mechanic is the arm which forges, taps, hammers, planes, digs, weaves; the singer is the larynx which vocalizes, warbles, spins out notes; the engineer is the brain which calculates, which arranges plans; the prostitute is the sexual organ which gives out venereal pleasure. Do you imagine that the clerks in my office use their intelligence, or that they reflect when they are copying papers? Oh, but they don't; thinking is not their business; they are nothing but fingers which scribble. They perform in my offices for ten or twelve hours this work which is far from exhilarating, which gives them headaches, stomach disorders and hemorrhoids; and at evening they carry home writing to finish, that they may earn a few cents to pay their landlords. Console yourself, my dear sir, these young people suffer as well as you, and not one of them has the satisfaction of saying that he receives per year the sum that you draw for a single month of digestive labor. Imprint this truth on your memory; the poor man no longer exists for himself in

our civilized societies, but for the capitalist who sets him to work at his fancy or according to his needs with such or such of his organs."

The other passage is this:

"The exploitation of man by the capitalist is so perfected that the most personal qualities, those most inherent in the individual, have been utilized to the profit of another. For the defense of his property no longer depends on his own courage, but upon that of certain proletarians disguised as soldiers; the banker consumes the honesty of his cashier, and the manufacturer the vital force of his workmen, as the debauchees use the sensuality of the Venuses of the pavement. Nevertheless, two faculties have as yet escaped our capitalist altruism, the child-bearing faculty of woman and the digestive faculty; no one has yet been able to transform them into goods that can be bought and sold, as are already the innocence of the virgin, the sanctity of the priest, the conscience of the legislator, the brilliancy of the writer and the intelligence of the chemist. The man who shall work that miracle will be greater than Charlemagne and wiser than Newton; he will be the most beneficent of the benefactors of the poor. Then the rich woman will no longer deform her figure by carrying in her abdomen, through long and painful months, the fruit of the womb; she will deposit her fertilized ovum in the womb of a poor woman, and during the nine months that the one who has sold her womb shall be fattening with the blood of her flesh the fetus of the capitalist's wife, she will have a respite from her poverty; for the first time she will rest herself, eating and drinking to her heart's content. The poor man will no longer have to dread his terrible enemy, hunger; he will culminate his appetite, which will be the merchandise sought by the millionaire, always in quest of that sovereign good, which Greek philosophy never could discover. What a resource the poor will then have—as for me, I know the useful art of having what I eat digested by another; I shall not reveal that secret until on my death-bed."

The book covers only 53 pages; is neatly bound, and is illustrated by Dorothy D. Deene. Price 50 cents.

Less facetious than with the above work are Messrs. Kerr & Co. with the second—Labriola's, not that Labriola's work is not brilliant, nor that it suffers in the translation, but— For one thing, partisan utterances in

a translator's preface are out of place in such works of pure theory. They are particularly so when, as happens in this case, the partisanship is not grounded upon fact. The translator says in his preface that, in 1896, "the American Socialist movement was then hardly more than an association of immigrants, who had brought their Socialism with them from Europe," and elsewhere he speaks of the so-called "Socialist" party, the party which the translator seems to belong to, as the Socialist party that is free from the stigma of that of 1896—the then and now Socialist Labor Party. Neither statement is borne out by the facts.

While it is true, and an interesting fact it is, that in 1896 and down to 1898 there was in the S. L. P. a considerable body of "immigrants who had brought their Socialism with them from Europe," this other fact is historic that, in the struggle that ensued between that alien and the non-alien element—the former trying to lower the Socialist Movement of America to the backward economic standard of Europe, the latter to keep it up to the advanced economic standard of America—the former, the alien element, was in such minority in the Party, as a whole, that it was easily thrown overboard. Despite all attempts of that minority to capture the Party's name and English press, it failed signally, and the S. L. P. has remained the true Socialist reflex of the most advanced capitalist industrial conditions on earth—the industrial conditions of America. That much for the American Socialist Movement in 1896—the only Socialist Movement in this country at that date.

And how stands the case with Mr. Kerr's "Socialist" party? It is to-day dominated, physically and spiritually, by that very alien element that the S. L. P. threw out. Whether in national conventions, or through the national secretaryship, or through its press, it is that alien element that runs and inspires that "Socialist" party. When that thrown-out alien element, named the Kangaroos, set themselves up as a party, their officers were a tight to behold. So utterly alien was their composition that one of their National Executive Committeemen was not even a citizen. The Debs Socialist Movement being then on, the Kangaroos hoped to it. Unable to capture and dominate the S. L. P. with their alien thought, they went and succeeded in capturing and dominating the Debs Movement. The then Chicago "Social Democratic Herald," a Debs Socialist or-

## "THE SALE OF AN APPETITE," A STORY BY PAUL LAFARGUE, AND "ESSAYS ON THE MATERIALIST CONCEPTION OF HISTORY," BY ANTONIO LABRIOLA : : : : :

gan, saw with prophetic dread the threatened Kangaroo invasion. Scolding were the tears shed by Debs Socialists of Chicago at the certain prospect of their being bagged. And they were. How thoroughly the bagging was done by that alien Kangaroo element may be judged from the circumstance that the "Socialist" party is to-day, by vote and action, in line with the backward European Movement which could see no higher than to endorse Millerand at the Paris Congress; and by the further circumstance that, while the Western, or Debs Socialists are struggling to set upon its feet a trades union movement in line with the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, and in keeping with the genius of America, the alien Kangaroo element are licking at the flesh-pots of the Gompers European style of trades unions, which call the American Labor Union "scab" and seek to smash it!

There is a third circumstance of note in line with the above two. It cannot have escaped the cautious observer that all the daily papers of that alleged American Socialist Movement are printed in some alien tongue—Yiddish or German. So vast is the American element of such stern caliber that it is not able to set up an English daily anywhere. Its dailies are printed in foreign languages, and as to their contents, their comprehension of American institutions is utterly Timbuctoish. The S. L. P. has had its daily for now nearly four years. It is an odd idea to preface a work like Labriola's on the "materialist conception of history" with praises of a party that, if anything, is a denial of the materialist conception, in that it is not responsive to America's advanced material conditions. Seeing, moreover, that, of the two organizations, the Socialist Labor Party has and reaches the larger reading element, such a preface to such a book is not the best of judgment.

As to Labriola's work itself, despite the brilliancy of its execution, it is, paradoxical as the statement may sound, possibly harmful and surely superfluous. The day for theoretical disquisitions of this sort is over. There is an ample literature upon the matter. Why say over again what has before been said well? In so far, it is a case of carrying coals to Newcastle, and Labriola's work is superfluous.

But it may also be harmful. The task before the men of active minds and bodies is to-day to work up the ample mass of existing theory, already brilliantly expounded by the masters, into the manifold occurrences of the living present. The translator is in error when he says, again in his preface, that the ideas of the Communist Manifesto of 1848 are "now first adequately explained and elaborated in this remarkable work of Labriola." Let's see what Labriola himself says on the subject. On p. 52 we read:

"Later the 18th Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte [by Marx] was the first attempt to apply the new conception of history to a series of facts contained within precise limits of time. It is extremely different to rise from the apparent movement to the real movement of history and to discover their intimate connection. There are indeed great difficulties in rising from the phenomena of passion, oratory, Parliaments, election and the like to the inner social gearing to discover in the latter the different interests of the large and small bourgeois, of the peasants, the artisans, the laborers, the priests, the soldiers, the bankers, the usurers and the mob. All these interests act consciously or unconsciously, jostling each other, eliminating each other, combining and fusing, in the discordant life of civilized man."

If Labriola's work is at all to be turned to real profit, it is by grasping the soundness of the above passage. Marx's "Eighteenth Brumaire" was the kind of "working of theory into the living happenings of the living present" that is needed. One such work is worth all new disquisitions on theories. Not only did Marx lay down the theory, he also set the example in the "Eighteenth Brumaire" of how to propagate the theory, and of how to utilize the living events of the day in its propagation. Indeed, many are the "Eighteenth Brumaires," so to speak, that could be written. They are not written. Why not? Labriola tells us above why, and in telling us, warns us away from his own book: "Great are the difficulties in rising from the phenomena of passion . . . and the like inner social gearing to discover the . . . the different interests that act . . . jostling each other, combining and fusing in the discordant life of civilized man." In other words, it is difficult to transmute the theory into the tangle of living facts and thus expound it; it is easier to "spin the yarn" of fresh theoretical treatises. Hence all indolent minds in the Movement become theoreticians. With their "works" and "essays" they blanket such expounding works as the "Eight-

## STEEL WORKERS

## They Protest and Urge Action—Two Interesting Letters.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—The following was clipped from the Pittsburgh Gazette of Sunday, January 10, 1904:

"Conditions Are Better. More cheerful reports heard at monthly meeting of steel executives."

"The monthly meeting of the United States Steel Corporation's executives held here yesterday developed the fact that there are already some marked improvements in the steel business as compared with the closing months of the past year, and that the outlook grows steadily brighter."

"These meetings, which formerly were held in New York, will take place here regularly now, since the headquarters of the executive and other departments are to be in this city. Routine questions of many kinds are brought before the meetings and the relations of the companies with each other made as close as possible."

But how is it with the workmen employed in the various mills in this section?

Wages have been reduced, the Pittsburgh papers say, ten per cent., but when the wage earner recovers from the shock and begins to figure out the result, I venture to say that it will be over and above the amount the capitalist papers would have us believe.

The following is the schedule of rates in the transportation department of the Edgar Thomson Steel Works and Furnaces:

	Old Rate.	New Rate.
General yard masters, per day	\$4.00	\$3.60
Assistant yard master	3.13	3.00
Brakemen	2.75	2.50
Engineers	3.30	3.00
Firemen	2.33	2.00

Now let us see how much the United States Steel Corporation is saving each twelve-hour turn. When every department is working full there are eleven crews working in the yard. To fill the positions requires the following list of men, per day of twelve hours:

1 General yard master, saving	\$0.40
3 Assistant yard masters, saving	.39
22 Brakemen, saving	5.50
11 Engineers, saving	3.30
11 Firemen, saving	3.63

Total ..... \$13.22

Or \$26.44 per day of twenty-four hours, \$9,650.60 per year. Quite an item.

But this is not all, fellow workmen, as you know only too well. The day men were reduced to per cent., and only allowed straight time for all overtime and Sundays, where they were paid time and a half before. The tonnage and turn men were also reduced. In fact, everybody on the plant had to give his portion except the water and messenger boys; and they have added anything worth mentioning from their 87 cents per day, they, too, would have had to part with it.

Fellow workmen, is it not about time we were waking up? Do you not see that capitalism is no respecter of persons when dividends are under consideration? The capitalist will make all kinds of promises, but the promise is about all you get. On election day "you are a good fellow"; they will go so far as to tell you that "you are brother Labor," or as President Roosevelt says, necessary parties, Capital and Labor. Is this last act of the United States Steel Corporation very brotherly? At the present time brother Capital does not care for brother Labor. But there is an election coming, and then they will want you to vote for "continued prosperity," "the full dinner pail," and God knows what other good things they have in store for you. But do not be fooled any longer. Vote the straight Socialist Labor Party ticket and insure yourselves against reductions, strikes or lockouts by establishing the Co-operative Commonwealth, so that every workman will be assured the full product of his labor.

Up with the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance. Down with Capitalism and all its degrading influences.

Hasten the day when we can stand on this fair earth and say in truth: "We are free."

A Fellow Wage Slave.  
Braddock, Pa., January 11, 1904.

To the Daily and Weekly People:—Now that the Steel Trust, and Frick, with his Coke Trust, are under the control of the Standard Oil Trust, the wage slaves here and all over the country may soon have their eyes turned in this direction again. From Homestead, Duquesne and McKeesport rumors come to Braddock of the discontent of the workmen, and the stand they are taking. At Homestead the men have organized inside the works and sent their ultimatum to the Head Office through the superintendent. If the men at the Homestead works have done that, and all the other men of the great trust have done the

same, what will the outcome be? Evidently the men have organized to fight the capitalists. Can they hope to win any more than they did in 1892; is the Steel Trust backed by the Oil Trust easier to fight than it was alone, in that year? On the surface, the answer seems to be No; but the contrary is true. It is really easier now.

Why? Because in 1892 the Trust had not developed to its present gigantic proportions; under Carnegie's rule it was comparatively small; at that time the economic causes underlying it were understood by very few; we know more now than ever before of the forces which push society into panics. At that time you could not speak in public about the million-dollar Trust; now it is a common term. Thus it is, that although the Trust is now four times as strong as it was then, the increased proficiency of the weapons to be used against it make victory easier for us. The developed Trust is an enlightener, and increased enlightenment is increased power to fight with.

The S. L. P. has always held that competition is the force that will and must make one man rule; and that time would show the truth of the statement. Now time has shown it; and, judging from the votes on last election day, the workmen of this land want it so. "I am willing to do the will of the rest of them" is all that you get from those that are cut 10 per cent. in their wages. We used to get time and a half for all overtime and Sundays; but now we must work for straight time, with a 10 per cent. cut. This means a loss of at least \$20 per month to the men; for ordinary time they are cut from 30 cents an hour to 27, and for overtime and Sundays they will get that same 27 cents instead of 45, as formerly. All hands got the cut, big and little, all were made to feel that the Trust is master. Old Frick, Rockefeller and Co. are not done cutting yet, and what are you going to do about it?

This cut means a difference of \$3.06 for one night's work (14 hours) alone. Add to this a raise in house rent, coal gone up, and everything else that we need at the top notch; it is a fair estimate to put the loss at \$20 a month for the men. The salaried men will lose only 30 per cent., but that is quite a cut. In spite of the chestnut "You can't get men to think alike," Jack and Bill think with the high-salaried men now.

To show you that the Trust can do as it pleases, since the cut went into effect at Braddock, four furnaces that were out were put into blast last week, some of them on Sunday. Yet Schwab builds churches! Here is Christian benevolence building churches with one hand and with the other building blast furnaces which keep the men away from church.

You men that work, learn this lesson: Rockefeller owns more now than he did ten years ago; so do the other big capitalists. Ultimately they must turn on each other and destroy each other, like Anarchists (witness Cassatt of the P. R. R. pulling down the poles of the Western Union), unless they co-operate. And you men that work and strive and starve and vote, you can by the power of your numbers, if you so will it, if you pool your interests, fix all things to your benefit, to the satisfaction of your class. Organize in the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance. Don't say "This is the moon you are chasing!" Just think what a moon you are chasing when you run up against a Trust, and curse the conditions it causes after voting for them. If all that were employed by the Steel Trust became members of the S. T. & L. A., and learned the true inwardness of the capitalist system, they would be surprised. The system is so weak and rotten it would be so easy to put it in the graveyard of dead systems that only the closest observer would be aware of the funeral; the mourners would be so few that they would be lost sight of in the gladness that would envelope the now sorrowing sons of toil.

The Socialist republic will bring such blessings to human society that the men who establish it will receive the hearts' best wishes of all succeeding ages for planting, for the first time in history, the tree of Freedom for the toilers of the earth. It is a thing worth voting for, worth fighting for, aye, worth dying for. But it cannot be brought about until the mass of workmen know how to do it.

Any and all that seek knowledge should read The People and join the S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A. They should help those of us who are carrying the load of our class on our shoulders. You toilers, it is your duty to carry your share. This last cut should make it plain to those who have been used as whips in their masters' hands to drive their less fortunate fellow men sometimes to their doom, that our loading Frick and all like him hold the man that toils for them in contempt, and if it is not one it would be another capitalist that would skin us. And I say now, if we do nothing but kick as individuals we deserve no better. We can right it if we will. Some say, and with truth, that they have fought and fought and got it in the neck; they have tried it organized and unorganized. They should learn from those defeats how to strengthen their

forces. We have never yet voted en masse against our masters. Why not try it?

Some men tell me that the pure and simple union is all right. And when you tell them that fakirs are at the head of it and sell the union out, you have to get ready to fight. But facts are stubborn things and will not change to suit anybody; and fact is that Garland, Dolan and Gompers are playing political games for the capitalists. Garland is collector of the Port of Pittsburgh. Is it because he fought our masters and we put him there, or is it because he did not fight our masters, and they put him there? As things stand to-day, we could not have put him there if we wanted to, so it must be that our masters did put him where he is because he stood by them when we needed him most. What is true of one is true of all the outfit. Powderly got his job, Gompers has his on at Washington—I need mention no more. Everybody knows these are facts. If we want to continue in the same old rut, keep on voting as of yore, and capitalist crooks and fakirs will do the rest. But if we want to change it, let us go at it like men. Demand your right to live on this earth. Demand the unconditional surrender of the robbers that gave you a cut in wages for a New Year's present. Down with the rule of the loafer, the capitalist! Up with the rule of the toiler, the only honest element in society.

P. O. J.  
Braddock, Pa., January 11, 1904.

#### GENERAL ORGANIZER'S FUND.

#### HEADQUARTERS OF SOCIALIST TRADE AND LABOR ALLIANCE OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA, 2-4-6 NEW READE STREET, NEW YORK, JANUARY 2, 1904.

To All District and Local Alliances, Members at Large and Sympathizers, Greeting:—

In pursuance of the action of the last National Convention of the Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance, the General Executive Board hereby issues a call for voluntary contributions, either in one large amount or in weekly installments, for the purpose of establishing a General Organizer's Fund, this fund to be kept intact and to be used to put and keep in the industrial field a General Organizer, who shall agitate, organize and help in the upbuilding of the Alliance throughout the country.

Any organizations in the S. T. & L. A. that may have an idle fund in their treasuries are urged to place it at the disposal of the G. E. B. for this work, and they shall receive in return the immediate benefit of an organizer. Act quickly. Work must now be pushed and results accomplished. Address all contributions to John J. Kinneally, General Secretary, 2-4-6 New Reade Street, New York.

By order General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A. John J. Kinneally, General Secretary.

Previously acknowledged	\$70.00
D. A. 21, Hartford, Conn.	15.00
W. Hammerlinde, Chicago, Ill.	1.00
L. A. 263, Seattle, Wash.	5.00
L. A. 140, N. Y.	
P. Weinert (10 cents pledged weekly)	\$1.25
J. J. Kinneally	1.10
F. B. Sullivan	.25
J. Neuman	.10
J. Edgington	.10
C. C. Crawford	.20
	\$3.00
Total to date	\$94.00

#### IMPORTANT, MASSACHUSETTS!

To the members of the Socialist Labor Party, and all sympathizers, in Massachusetts:—The General Committee of Massachusetts at its session of Jan. 10, ordered the secretary of the Massachusetts S. L. P. to issue this call to you, asking that you subscribe as per vote of the party to a fund for the purpose of defraying the wages of the secretary, and the secretary is ordered to open an account for this purpose.

The Party voted, almost unanimously, to have a paid secretary and you are now invited, along with sympathizers of the Party, to send at once your contribution for this fund to the secretary of the General Committee.

Michael T. Berry, Secretary, General Committee, Massachusetts S. L. P., 99½ Chestnut street, Lynn, Mass.

#### THE PROLETAIRE.

Air: "My Maryland."

(Written for The People by J. J. Dolan.)

The Proletaire! The Proletaire! Though toiling hard, of wealth so bare; Producing all, yet Mammon's thrall Bids Labor fall to deep despair.

The wheel of Greed, in many years, Has turned the worker's blood to tears; Thus filled their minds with foolish fears. Oh, Proletaire! Poor Proletaire! To social ills be not resigned, Ye Proletaire, ye Proletaire. Though form would chain, be free in mind.

Ye Proletaire! Ye Proletaire! Arouse and fend with freeman's gust The placid lie, the legal thrust, That bids men munch the beggar's crust. Ah, Proletaire! Ye Proletaire! Alas! That we may sing the song. "The Proletaire! The Proletaire!" Still honest wit will right the wrong, And leave no more a proletaire. Beware the sentimental ray That oft will lead good men astray. Be wise, and seek the clearest way—Tis S. L. P. ye Proletaire!

## SCANDINAVIAN CLUBS

Form Federation to Push S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A. Principles—The Resolutions

A conference of the Scandinavian Socialist Clubs here in the East had been called to be held in Hartford, Conn., January 2 and 3, 1904.

Out of the nine clubs in the East, all working isolated, but all with unmistakable leaning toward the Socialist Labor Party, five sent one, one two and two clubs together one delegate to the conference. The clubs represented are located in Brooklyn, New York City, New Haven, Conn.; New Britain, Conn.; Providence, R. I.; Boston, Mass., and Woburn, Mass.

The conference was held at the S. L. P. headquarters at Hartford, Conn., and opened at 12.30 p. m. on Saturday, January 2, by Comrade Arvid Olson, of New York, who outlined the work the conference had before it.

He said, in part: "Comrades: We have come here to perform a certain task—a task which, first of all, places before us the question as to whether it is logical or not to link all the various Socialist clubs in the East together and consolidate them under one program."

"The various clubs have, with but one exception, all spoken in favor of the idea, but for all that we must recognize the vital importance of the work before us, so that we speak and vote as true logic calls upon class-conscious workmen to speak and vote. It rests with us to build or say that we shall not build. Let us, therefore, if we vote to build, build in such manner as the laws of class-conscious construction dictate, so that, in future, the revolutionary aspirations of the workers cannot place any stamp of shame upon us."

The various officers and committees were then elected and the conference proceeded to work.

The question of consolidation was first disposed of. It was unanimously voted to consolidate. The sentiments backing the vote will be found in the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

#### RESOLUTIONS.

"The Scandinavian Socialist Clubs of the Eastern States of the United States of America, in conference assembled, at Hartford, Conn., January 2 and 3, 1904, to discuss and decide as to whether an organization of these clubs into a federation may be of any benefit to the Revolutionary Socialist Movement of America, makes known their position on the question by the following resolutions:

"Whereas, among the Scandinavian element of America, as among all other foreign elements of the country, tendencies and strikes are prevalent, aiming at the maintenance of these groupings of foreign nationalities and all the peculiarities that go with them; tendencies that give fuel to a sort of Babel confusion, which cannot act other than as a hindrance to the sound development of the country; and,

"Whereas, these conditions of confusion of nationalities are upheld and stimulated by the capitalist class of the land, with the purpose in view of perpetuating them; and,

"Whereas, these conditions are conditions from which the capitalist class alone derives benefit, owing to the reason that it places a weapon—the foreign capitalist press—in its hands, which is used to the detriment of the workers, said detrimental influence being plainly felt by the effect of the false teachings of that press as in its advocacy, as follows:

"Elect your republican and democratic, etc., countrymen to the administrative offices, and your (meaning the workers') conditions will be improved"; and,

"Whereas, this foreign capitalist press of the land is in itself the effective instrument whereby the capitalist class maintains this condition of confusions of nationalities—this un-American condition—and,

"Whereas, the interests of workers of this land cannot be improved along lines of nationalities, because—whatever country these workers have come from—their interests are not opposed by any peculiar interests of nationalities, but by Class Interests, in that the workers of the land, no matter of what nationality they are, are all found on one side as a propertyless and exploited class, while the capitalists—no matter of what nationality they are—are found lined up on the other side as the property-owning, the working class exploiting class; and,

"Whereas, the working class of the country, that element of its people that produces all its wealth, must, if it desires to permanently, or at all, improve its conditions, rally together in a Revolutionary Socialist Movement, with the overthrow of the capitalist system at the earliest possible time and the rearing of the Socialist Republic as the object; and,

"Whereas, this is the only logical method whereby the workers of the land can improve their conditions and liberate themselves; and,

"Whereas, the Republican, Democratic and all other parties, with the excep-

tion of the Socialist Labor Party, are parties that uphold this system of Capitalist Exploitation; and,

"Whereas, the cry of the foreign capitalist press: 'Elect your countrymen to the administrative offices,' is nothing but cheat and humbug; and,

"Whereas, the Socialist Labor Party of the United States and Canada is this country's working class' only political party, and the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance its only sound Trades Union Movement; be it, therefore,

"Resolved, That we indorse the organization of the Scandinavian Socialist Labor Federation of America, as we believe that it can work to the benefit of the Revolutionary Labor Movement of the land, but that it can only be of such value in that its efforts be to distribute the S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A. organs and literature, and to—as far as the Scandinavian element of the land goes—tear down the walls of nationalistic confusion; and, be it further

"Resolved, That this federation, by means of its Swedish organ, 'Arbetaren,' shall combat the Scandinavian capitalist press and always hold the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance forth as the only Labor Movement powerful enough to lead the working class out of Wage Slavery—and, always pointing to this Movement, as:

"This is the workers' only hope; the beacon that alone throws true light on the clear course to the emancipation of the working class; and be it again

"Resolved, That the by-laws adopted at this conference be translated and referred to the N. E. C. of the Socialist Labor Party for indorsement before submitting them to a general vote."

By-laws were then proposed and discussed and were, on the second and last day, finally adopted as a whole.

The aims and objects as adopted places the Federation squarely as indorsing the Socialist Labor Party and the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, in that it shall unite all clubs indorsing said organization and work for the distribution of S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A. organs and literature. The aims and objects close:

"To educate the members of the federation in S. L. P. principles and tactics, with the purpose in view to develop them for membership in the S. L. P."

The by-laws provide that no S. L. P. or S. T. & L. A. expelled member can hold membership in the federation.

The conference closed on Sunday at 3 p. m. amid much enthusiasm, and at 4 p. m. a mass meeting in Swedish was held, at which Comrades Hening Carlson, of Providence; G. Rudquist, of Boston, and Arvid Olson, of New York, spoke. At the close six of the audience expressed the desire to form a club and continue the agitation in Hartford.

#### BUSINESS DEPARTMENT NOTES

Two hundred and sixty-two subscriptions to The Weekly People were received during the week ending Saturday, January 16. Most of these came from Western States, California and Washington making the best showing. Illinois did fairly well. But the Eastern States, such as New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut, made a very poor showing. The Eastern comrades have the advantage of a field to work in where industrial conditions are much more favorable to our movement than those that prevail in the Western States. Are they going to let a comparatively few Western comrades outdo them in the important work of getting papers for the Party's papers?

Since circular No. 4 was sent out we have received an increase of orders for prepaid blanks and postal cards. During the week five dollars' worth of blanks or cards were sent by Sections Fall River, Mass.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Newport News, Va.; Tacoma, Wash.; San Antonio, Tex.; South Norwalk, Conn.; 16th A. D., New York, and 34th A. D., New York. Section Cleveland takes 20 postal cards, 12 prepaid blanks were taken by Kansas City, 8 by Superior, Wis., and 2 postals by Patton, Pa. All Sections should get a supply and put their members to work. Keep it up. Increase this list next week!

Comrade Leach, of Phoenix, Ariz., receives a copy of Lissagor's History of the Commune for sending in five dollars' worth of subs. to The Weekly People.

R. Goodwin, a new worker in Los Angeles, Cal., sends in eleven subscribers for The Weekly. That is a good beginning, and a good example for others to follow.

Five or more subs. were sent in as follows: For The Weekly—C. M. Carlson, Tacoma, Wash., 10; Fred Brown, Cleveland, O., 10; D. Rehder, Philadelphia, Pa., 9; 34th A. D., New York, 9; W. H. Walker, Seattle, Wash., 8; G. A. Jennings, East St. Louis, Ill., 7; J. J. Dolan, Lynn, Mass., 6; C. F. Perkins, Fieldbrook, Cal., 5; I. Goldman, Hackensack, N. J., 5.

For The Monthly: Paul A. Noffke, Holyoke, Mass., 22; G. L. Bryce, London, Ont., 5; total, 64.

A comrade in Fall River, Mass., sends us a list of several hundred names to send sample copies to. We want more lists like this, especially of trade unionists and those interested in social reform. If it can be done, it will save us considerable work when sample copies are sent out containing interesting articles, if the names are arranged on separate sheets, according to trades.

## CLEVELAND CONVENTION

## Of S. L. P. Nominates Candidates For Municipal Offices.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 11.—At the convention held January 10 Section Cleveland of the Socialist Labor Party placed their ticket in the field for the spring elections.

James Mathews was elected chairman; Elmer Malmsten, secretary.

The following committees were elected: Committee on Resolutions, John D. Goerke, Paul Dinger, H. M. Haasfurther; Committee on Nominations, Joseph Reiman, Fred Brown, John Hanley.

While the committees were at work Comrade John Kircher delivered a very interesting address. Committee on Resolutions presented the following, which were adopted:

The Socialist Labor Party of Cleveland, in convention assembled, affirms its allegiance to the Socialist Labor Party of the United States of America, approves of the tactics pursued by said national party, indorses its antagonistic attitude toward capitalist and middle class reform parties on the political and toward pure and simple trades unionism on the economic field, uphold the party's policy in its support of the only class conscious economic organization, the Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance; and, furthermore, this convention pledges its moral and financial support of the party's official organ, The Daily and Weekly People, the Sozialistische Arbeiter Zeitung, its German, and Arbetaren, its Swedish organ.

Realizing that the goal of the revolutionary movement of the working class, as carried on by the Socialist Labor Party, i. e., the overthrow of the capitalist and the instituting of the socialist system of production can only be achieved when the entire political machinery of the country in all its branches will be in the hands of the working class, and realizing that the class struggle between the capitalist class, with its admiring and emulating ally, the middle class, on the one hand and the exploited wage slave class on the other, permits of no political co-operation between the two, no matter how insignificant the office to be filled may appear, or how plausible warring factions of the property-owning class may, advantageously to itself, take sides with one or the other political group of competing exploiters, the Socialist Labor Party enters this campaign setting forth its attitude as to the educational and legislative functions of municipal governments.

Resolved, That the Socialist Labor Party alone deserves the support of the working class.

John D. Goerke, Paul Dinger, H. M. Haasfurther, Committee.

Committee on Nominations recommended the following nominations, which were made:

Police Judge—P. E. Christiansen. Justice of the Peace—J. H. Foerster, Harry Bradburn. City Council at Large—Richard Koepel, James Rugg, Fred Brown. Constable—Ed. Keim. School Director—John D. Goerke. School Council—John Heidenreich, Robert Zillmer, Herman Stieg.

The City Executive Committee was instructed to nominate all councilman candidates; also to fill all vacancies that might occur.

The convention then adjourned with cheers for the party and its organs.

Elmer Malmsten, Secretary.

#### LABOR NEWS DEPARTMENT.

The big snowstorm of the holidays delayed the delivery of the paper for "Behind the Scenes" by two weeks; but it is now out, and about 4,000 have so far been mailed. It is a well-printed, 64-page pamphlet, on good book paper, and contains photographs of the letters written by Colorado politicians, from Governor down, for free passes. It will sell for 5 cents a copy, or \$3 per hundred, postpaid.

DeLeon's translation of Bebel's "Woman Under Socialism" will be put to press the coming week, and will be pushed rapidly to completion. It has been necessary, because of our limited means and the small number of orders received, to start in with a small edition of 2,500. Comrade Ebert has furnished the frontispiece, a pen drawing of Bebel, and Comrade Armer, of San Francisco, whose cartoons have from time to time appeared in The People, has prepared the cover stamp. The first edition will be on fine, super-calendared book, in cloth covers, and will retail at \$1 per copy.

The latest issue of the Labor Library is a reprint of "The Modern Tragedy, or, The Downfall of the Small Producer." It is particularly applicable for distribution at this time, when the little middleman finds himself driven to the wall by capitalist competition and "hard times." Fifteen cents a hundred, \$1.25 a thousand, postpaid.

Next month, if advance orders warrant it, a new edition of the Italian translation of "What Means This Strike?" and the first edition of the Italian translation of "Reform or Revolution" will be published. The demand for Italian literature from the Labor News Company during the past year has been poor. The bookstore connected with "Il Proletario" having supplied the Italian comrades, the sale of literature appropriate for propaganda in this country was neglected, and pamphlets more applicable to Italy pushed to the front. The Labor News Company will now take hold of these of Italian literature.

# The Pilgrim's Shell

OR

## FERGAN THE QUARRYMAN

A Tale From the Feudal Times

By EUGENE SUE

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL FRENCH  
By DANIEL DE LEON

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### PART I.—THE FEUDAL CASTLE.

#### CHAPTER III.

##### AT THE CROSS-ROAD.

The day after Fergan the Quarryman decided to penetrate into the castle of Plouernel, a considerable troop of travelers, men of all conditions, who had left Nantes the day before, were journeying towards the frontier of Anjou. Among them were found pilgrims, distinguishable by the cockle-shell attached to their clothes, vagabonds, beggars, peddlers loaded with their bundles of goods. Among the latter a man of tall stature, with light blonde hair and beard, carried on his back a bundle surmounted with a cross and covered with coarse pictures representing human bones, such as skulls, thighs, arms, and fingers. This man, named Harold the Norman, devoted himself, like many other descendants of the pirates of old Rolf, to the trade of relics, selling to the faithful the bones which they stole at night from the seigniorial gibbets. By the sides of Harold marched two monks, who called each other Simon and Jeronimo. The cowl of the frock of Simon was pulled over his head and completely concealed his face; but that of Jeronimo, thrown back over his shoulder, exposed the monk's dark and lean visage, whose thick eye-brows, as black as his beard, imparted to it a savage hardness.

A few steps behind these priests, mounted on a fine white mule, of well-fed form and skin sleek and shining like silver, came a merchant of Nantes, named from his great wealth, Bezenecq the Rich. Still in the vigor of years, of open, intelligent and affable mien, he wore a hood of black felt, a robe of fine blue cloth, gathered around his waist by a leathern belt, from which hung an embroidered purse. Behind him, and on a part of the saddle contrived for such service, rode his daughter Isoline, a lass of about eighteen years, with blue eyes, brown hair, white teeth and a face like a rose of May, as pretty as she was attractive. Isoline's long pearl-grey robe hid her little feet; her traveling cloak, made of a soft green fabric, enveloped her elegant and supple waist; under the hood of the mantle, lined in red, her fresh visage was partially seen. The feelings of tender solicitude between father and daughter could be divined by the looks and smiles of affection that they often exchanged, as well as by the little attentions that they frequently bestowed upon each other. The serenity of unalloyed happiness, the sweet pleasures of the heart, could be read upon their visages, which bore the impress of radiant bliss. A well-clad servant, alert and vigorous, led on foot a second mule, loaded with the baggage of the merchant. On either side of the saddle hung a sword in its scabbard. In those days, one never traveled unarmed. Bezenecq the Rich had conformed to the usage, although that good and worthy townsman was of a nature little given to strife.

The travelers had arrived at a cross-road where the highway of Nantes to Angers forked off. At the juncture of the two roads there rose a seigniorial gibbet, symbol and speaking proof of the supreme jurisdiction exercised by the lords in their domains. That massive pile of stones bore at its top four iron forks fastened at right angles, gibbet-shaped. From the gibbet that rose over the western branch of the road three corpses hung by the neck. The first was reduced to the condition of a skeleton; the second was half putrified. The crows, disturbed in their bloody quarry by the approach of the travelers, still circled in the air over the third corpse, that of a young girl, completely stripped, without even the shred of a rag. It was the body of Perrine the Goat, tortured and executed in the early morning of that day, as threatened by Garin the Serf-eater. The thick black hair of the victim fell over her face, pinched with agony and furrowed with long traces of clotted blood that had flowed from her eyesockets. Her teeth still held a little wax figure, two or three inches long, clad in a bishop's gown with a miniature mitre on its head, made out of a bit of gold foil. The witches, to carry out their diabolical incantations, often had several of these little figures placed between the teeth of the hanged at the moment when they expired. They called this magic "spell throwing." Beside this gibbet rose the seigniorial post of Neroweg VI, lord and count of the lands of Plouernel. The post indicated the boundaries of the domain traversed by the western road, and was surmounted by a red escutcheon, in the middle of which were seen three eagle's talons painted in yellow—the device of the Nerowegs. Another post, bearing for emblem a dragon-serpent of green color painted on a white background, marked the eastern route which traversed the domains of Draco, Lord of Castel-Redon, and flanked another gibbet with four patibulary forks. Of these only two were furnished; from one hanged the corpse of a child of fourteen years at the most, from the other the corpse of an old man, both half winded away by the crows. Isoline, the daughter of Bezenecq the Rich, uttered a cry of horror at the sight of these bodies, and huddling close to the merchant, behind whom she was on horseback, whispered in a low voice: "Father! oh, father! Look at those bodies. It's a horrible spectacle!"

"Look not in that direction, my child," answered sadly the townsman of Nantes, turning around to his daughter. "More than once on our road shall we make these mournful encounters. The patibulary forks are found on the confines of every seigniorial estate. Often even the trees are decked out with hanging bodies!"

"Oh, father," replied Isoline, whose face, so full of smiles a minute before, had painfully saddened, "I fear this encounter may be of sad omen to our voyage!"

"Beloved daughter," the merchant put in with suppressed agony, "be not so quick to take alarm. No doubt we live in days when it is impossible to leave the city and undertake a long trip with safety. It is that that kept me from paying a visit in the city of Laon to my good brother Gildas, whom I have not seen for many years. It is unfortunately a long way to Picardy, and I have not dared to venture on such a ride. But our trip will hardly take two days. We should not apprehend a sad issue to this visit to your grandmother, who wishes to see and embrace you before she dies. Your presence will sweeten her sorrow at the loss of your mother, whom she mourns as grievously to-day as when my beloved wife was taken from me. Pick up courage and calm your mind, my child."

"I shall pick up courage, father, as you wish. I shall surmount my idle terrors and my childish fears."

"Were it not for the imperious duty that made us undertake this journey, I would say to you: 'Let's return to our peaceful home in Nantes, where you are happy and gay from morning to evening.' If your smile cheers my soul," Bezenecq added in a voice deeply moved, "every tear you drop falls upon my heart!"

"Behold me," said Isoline. "Would you say I look apprehensive, alarmed?" And saying this she pressed against the merchant her charming face, that had recovered its serenity and confidence. The townsman contemplated for a moment in silence the beloved features of his daughter. A tear of joy then gathered in his eye, and endeavoring to subdue his emotion, he cried out: "The devil take these crupper saddles! They prevent one even from embracing his own child with ease!" Whereupon the young girl, with a movement full of gracefulness, threw her arms on her father's shoulders, and drew her rosy face so close to Bezenecq's that he had but to turn his head to kiss the lassie on her forehead and cheeks, which he did repeatedly with ineffable happiness.

During this tender exchange of words and carresses between the merchant and his daughter, the other travelers, before proceeding upon either of the two routes that opened before them, had gathered in the middle of the crossing to consider which to take. Both roads led to Angers. One of them, that marked by the post surmounted with a serpent-dragon, after making a wide circuit, traversed a sombre forest; it was twice as long as the other. Each of the two roads having its own advantages and disadvantages, several of the travelers insisted upon the road of the post with the three eagle's talons. Simon, the monk whose face was almost wholly concealed under his cowl, strove, on the contrary, to induce his companions to take the other road. "Dear brothers! I conjure you," cried Simon, "believe me . . . do not cross the territory of the seigneur of Plouernel . . . He has been nick-named 'Worse than a Wolf,' and the reprobate but too well justifies the name." Every day stories are heard of travelers whom he arrests and plunders while crossing his grounds.

"My dear brother," put in a townsman, "I can testify, like you, that the keeper of Plouernel is a wicked man, and his donjon a terrible donjon. More than once from the ramparts of our city of Nantes have we seen the men of the Count of Plouernel, bandits of the worst stripe, pillage, burn, and ravage the territory of our bishop, with whom Neroweg was at war over the possession of the ancient abbey of Meriadec."

"Is that the abbey where the prodigious miracle of about four hundred years ago happened?" inquired another bourgeois. "Saint Merofiede, abess of the monastery, summoned by the soldiers of Charles Martel to surrender the place, invoked heaven, and the miscreants, overwhelmed by a shower of stones and fire, were asphyxiated in the fumes of burning sulphur and pitch, whither they were dragged by horned, clawed and hairy demons, frightful to behold. And so it happened that the venerable abess died in the odor of sanctity."

"An ineffable odor that has lasted down to our own days. The common people entertain a particular devotion for the chapel of Saint Merofiede, which has been raised on the borders of a large lake, close by the very place where the miracle was accomplished."

"The chapel is never empty of the faithful. The offerings furnish a large revenue to the incumbent. As the abess was of the house of the Nerowegs, the seigneur of Plouernel laid claim to, and sought to reacquire the property of the chapel. Hence the wars between the count and the Bishop of Nantes. Those were fearful wars, my friends. They happened at the season when the bishop was marrying his last daughter, whom he gave for a dower the benefice of Saint Paterne. It was a beautiful wedding. The wife and the daughter of his grace the bishop were beautifully ornamented. The young bride wore a necklace of inestimable value."

The moment the name of the Bishop of Nantes was mentioned, Simon the monk pulled down the cowl of his cloak, trying to hide his face completely.

"Sure enough, my beloved companions," interjected another townsman, "we know that the Sieur 'Worse than a Wolf' is a brigand. But do you imagine that the Sieur Draco, seigneur of Castel-Redon, is a lamb? It is as perilous to cross the territory of the one as of the other, and yet there is no other way out. The road to the east, barred by a river, run out upon a bridge that is guarded by the men of the seigneur of Castel-Redon; the road to the west, bordered by vast swamps, runs out upon a path guarded by the men of the seigneur of Plouernel. By taking the shorter of the two routes we reduce by one-half the chances of danger."

"This worthy man is right," said several voices. "Let's follow his advice."

"Dear brothers, look out what you do!" cried Simon the monk. "The seigneur of Plouernel is a monster of ferocity. He is given up to sorcery with a female magician, his concubine. . . a Jewess! He stands excommunicated; he is a pagan."

"To the devil with the Jews!" exclaimed Harold the Norman, merchant of relics. "The Jews have all been hanged, burned, drowned, strangled, quartered, when they were hunted down in all the provinces, like wild beasts. There can not be one of them left alive in our land of Gaul."

"Since the execution of the Orleans heretics, who perished by fire," resumed the monk Jeronimo, "never was an extermination of unclean animals more meritorious than that of those accursed Jews, who instigated the Saracens of Palestine to destroy the Temple of Solomon at Jerusalem. Death to the Jews!"

"What say you, dear brother?" inquired a townsman. "Did the Jews of this land of Gaul instigate the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem?"

"Yes, my brother. The abominable mischiefs of those Jews defy time and space. But patience! Soon will the day come when, by divine will, no longer will it be isolated pilgrims that will travel to Jerusalem to there mourn and pray at the tomb of our Lord Jesus Christ. It will be Christianity in mass that will march under arms to the Holy Land, in order to exterminate the infidels and deliver the sepulchre of the Saviour of the world from their sacrilegious presence. Death to all miscreants!"

Bezenecq the Rich, who had just approached the group of debating travelers, and ascertained the subject of their discussion, apprehensive lest his daughter take new alarm, suggested: "Meseems we had better take the shorter route. As to your fears, they are exaggerated. When we shall have paid the toll-collectors of the seigneur of Plouernel for the right to travel over his roads and cross his burghs and villages, what else can he demand of us? We are neither his serfs nor his vassals."

"Can you, a grey beard, talk like that?" interjected Simon the monk. "Do you imagine these devilish seigneurs care aught for justice or injustice?"

"But I do care a deal about that!" replied Bezenecq the Rich. "If the seigneur of Plouernel should do me violence, me a bourgeois of Nantes, I would appeal to William IX, Duke of Aquitaine, of whom the seigneur of Plouernel stands seized, the same as William IX holds of Philip I, King of the Franks. Each of these seigneurs has his suzerain."

"Which would be like appealing from the wolf to the tiger," replied Simon, shrugging his shoulders. "You can not know William, Duke of Aquitaine. That sacrilegious criminal sought to force Peter, the Bishop of Poitiers, to give him absolution for his crimes by putting a dagger to his throat. William abducted Malborigiane, the wife of the Viscount of Castellerault, a shameless creature, whose picture he dares to carry painted on his shield. William had the effrontery to answer Gerard, the Bishop of Angouleme, who reproached him with this new act of adultery: 'Bishop, I shall return Malborigiane when you frizzle your hair!' The prelate was bald. Such is the man to whom you would appeal from the violent acts of the seigneur of Plouernel."

"That William is certainly a deep-dyed criminal," put in Jeronimo, "but that much justice must be done him that he approved himself the most implacable exterminator of the Jews. Not one of those who lived on his domains escaped death!"

"It is said that the mere sight of a Jew makes him pale with horror; and that, libertine though he is, a Jewess, be she never such a beauty, be she a maid like the Virgin Mary, would make him run away from her."

"But that does not prevent," insisted Simon the monk, "that if you rely upon the Duke of Aquitaine for redress against the seigneur of Plouernel, you will be acting like a lunatic. On that subject your judgment is at fault."

"If William IX does not do us justice," rejoined Bezenecq the Rich, "we shall appeal to King Philip. Oh! oh! we townsman do not allow ourselves to be tyrannized without protest! We know how to draw up a petition!"

"And what will King Philip care for your petition? That Sardanapalus! that glutton! that idler! that double adulterer! and what's worse, that dullard, whom the seigneurs, his large vassals, laugh at openly! It is to him you will go for justice, if refused by the Duke of Aquitaine? Moreover, even if the latter were so inclined, as the suzerain of the seigneur of Plouernel, to punish him for wrongs done to you, would he have the power?"

"Certainly!" exclaimed Bezenecq. "He would enter the domain of the seigneur of Plouernel and besiege him in his castle."

Simon the monk shook his head sadly. "The seigneurs reserve their forces to round up their domains and to revenge their own wrongs. Never do they protect the cause of small folks, however just it be."

"We live, I know, in sad times; nor were the previous centuries much better," observed the townsman with a sigh, casting an uneasy look upon his daughter, who seemed again alarmed. "All the same, we should not exaggerate to ourselves the dangers of the situation. We have to choose between the two routes. Let's suppose the dangers of crossing them are equal. Common sense bids us to take the shorter, and that we hurry our steps."

"The shorter route is the more perilous," repeated Simon the monk, who, more than anyone else, seemed to dread crossing the territory of the seigneur of Plouernel.

"Oh! father," asked Isoline of the merchant, "have we really so many dangers to fear?"

"No, no, my dear child. That poor monk's mind is upset with fear."

The Norman dealer in relics, having overheard the last words of Isoline, approached her and said with much unction: "Pretty lassie, I have here in my box of relics a superb tooth, that comes from the blessed jaw of a holy man, who died in Jerusalem, a martyr to the Saracens. I shall let you have that tooth for three silver deniers. This sacred relic will protect you from all perils of the road." Saying which, Harold the Norman was about to exhibit the marvellous tooth, when Bezenecq said smiling to him, so as to reassure his daughter, "Not now, my friend; we shall look at your relic later on. Do you claim that it protects one against all the dangers of the road?"

"Yes, worshipful townsman. I swear it upon my eternal salvation; upon my share of Paradise."

"Seeing that you carry about you that holy relic, you will not be exposed to any accident; and seeing that we go with you, and are of your company, we shall profit by the miraculous protection. All of which should not hinder us, if you follow my advice, dear companions, to take the shorter route. Let those who share my views follow me," he added giving the spur to his mule so as to put an end to the discussion, and with that he took the road that led over the territory of the seigneur of Plouernel. The majority of the travelers followed the example of Bezenecq, because, for one thing, he spoke wisely; then also, he was known to be rich, his daughter accompanied him, and he had too much at stake to take an imprudent resolution. Those who shared the apprehensions of the monk Simon, being reduced to a small number, dared not separate from the bulk of the troop, and joined it after a moment's hesitation. Likewise Simon the monk and Jeronimo, who feared risking themselves alone on the other road. Harold the Norman, remained behind an instant, drew near one of the gibbets, pulled off the two legs and hands of a corpse, that was reduced to a mere skeleton, and placed them in his bag, counting upon selling them to the faithful for holy relics. He then rejoined the travelers, who were proceeding along the road of the seignior of Plouernel.

#### CHAPTER IV.

##### THE MANOR OF PLOUERNEL.

The castle of Neroweg VI—a somber retreat, situated, like the eyrie of a bird of prey, on the brow of a steep mountain—dominated the country for many miles around. The moment the watchman, posted on the platform of the donjon, espied from afar a troop of travelers, he sounded his horn. Immediately the band of the count, thievish and ferocious, would sally from the manor. These bandits, not satisfied with demanding the dues of passage and traffic, habitually pillaged the travelers, often even massacred them, or took them to the castle to be tortured and compelled to pay ransom. The face of Gaul bristled with similar haunts, raised by the Frankish seigneurs under the reign of Charles the Great. They were impregnable fortresses, from the heights of which barons, counts, marquises and dukes defied the royal authority, and desolated the country. The history of the Count of Plouernel is that of all these seigneurs who issued from the race of the first conquerors of Gaul. In the year 818, a Neroweg, second son of the head of this Frankish family that had been richly endowed in Auvergne since Clovis, was one of the chieftains in the army of Louis the Pious, when he ravaged Brittany, then in revolt at the call of Morvan and Vortigern. That Neroweg, in reward for his services during that war, received from the King a fief of the lands and county of Plouernel, which had reverted to the crown by the death of its last beneficiary, who left no heirs. Neroweg, in return for the cession of the county of Plouernel, was to own himself a vassal of Louis the Pious, render him fealty and homage as to his king and suzerain seigneur, pay him tribute, and support him in his wars by marching at the head of the men of his seignior. In the country of Plouernel, as in the other provinces of Gaul, certain colonists named villeins had succeeded in emancipating themselves and again became owners of parcels of land. Neroweg I. (the first of the name of this second-branch of the family) did not revolt against the authority of the King. His son, however, Neroweg II, had a strong castle built on the summit of the mountain of Plouernel, assembled there a numerous band of determined men, and then, with most of the other seigneurs, he said to the King of the Franks: "I do not recognize your sovereignty; I will no longer be your vassal; I declare myself sovereign on my domain, like you are on yours. The serfs, villeins and townsmen of my county become my men; they, their lands, their property belong to me only; I shall tax them at my will and impose upon them tributes, rent and taille which they shall pay to me only; they will go to war for me alone, and against you, should you dare come and besiege me in my fortress of Plouernel." The King did not go, seeing that most of the seigneurs held the same language to the descendants of Charles the Great or of Hugh le Capet, whose kingdom was gradually reduced to the possession of the bare provinces that he was able to defend and preserve, arms in hand. Neroweg III. and Neroweg IV. did as their ancestor and remained independent, masters, absolute and hereditary, of the country of Plouernel. A large number of Frankish seigneurs seized in the same way other parts of the territory of Gaul. Robert thus became Count of (the country of) Paris; Milo, Count of (the country of) Tonnerre; Hugh, Count of (the country of) Maine; Burchard, Sire of (the country of) Montmorency; Landry, Duke of (the country of) Nevers; Radulf, Count of (the country of) Beaugency; Enghilbert, Count of (the country of) Ponthieu; etc. These and a number of other seigneurs, descendants of the leudes of Clovis or of the chieftains of the bands of Charles Martel, dropping their Frankish names, or joining to them the Gaulish names of the regions that they took possession of, had themselves called "seigneurs," "sires," "dukes" or "counts," of Paris, of Plouernel, of Montmorency, of Nevers, of Tonnerre, of Ponthieu, etc., etc. During those centuries of wars and brigandage the Nerowegs had fortified their castle, while they lived on rapine and on the extortion of their villeins and their serfs. Neroweg V., surnamed "Towhead," from the color of his hair, and Neroweg VI., surnamed "Worse Than a Wolf" by the wretched people of his domains on account of his cruelty, proved themselves worthy of their ancestors.

The manor of Plouernel raises its front on the summit of a rocky and arid mountain, washed on its western slope by a swift running stream, while on the east it beetles over a narrow path constructed over immense marshes, drained by a canal that feeds the vast ponds of the abbey of Meriadec, located several leagues off, and one time part of the large holdings of the diocese of Nantes. If a traveler follows the overland route he is compelled to cross this jetty on his way from Angers to Nantes, unless he be willing to make a wide detour by journeying over the domains of the seigneur of Castel-Redon. The vessels that sail into the Loire through the river of Plouernel, whose waters bathe the foot of the hills, pass close under the castle. The location of the lair is skillfully chosen. It dominates the two only routes of communication between the most important towns of the region. A stockade half bars the river of Plouernel, and serves as a shelter for the barges of the seigneur. Merchant vessels being signaled from the top of the donjon, men in arms immediately embark, board the trader, collect navigation dues, and not infrequently pillage the cargo. No less dangerous is the overland route. A palisade, into which a gate is cut, bars the passage. It can be crossed only upon paying a toll, arbitrarily imposed upon the travelers by the count's men, who, moreover, sack the baggage at their case. If they suspect a traveler of being able to pay ransom they drag him to prison and there torture him until he consents to ransom himself. The ill-starred ones who may be too poor to pay the toll demanded are, both men and women, forced to submit to obscene affronts, ridiculous or cruel, to the great amusement of the men of the seigneur. On one of the gentler slopes of the mountain, towards the north, the little city of Plouernel rises in tiers, built in a semi-circle and equidistant from the manor and the valley, where lie scattered the villages that the villeins and serfs inhabit. A narrow path, winding and steep, and bordered here and yonder by precipices, leads up to the first fortified enclosure, whose ramparts, thirty feet high by two feet thick and flanked with large towers of brick, constitute one mass with the rock that serves as their foundation, a rock hewn with the pick and surrounded by abysses. The dizzy path that winds above the precipices ends in a massive door covered with iron sheets and enormous nails. It is the only access to the interior of the first enclosure, a somber court, where the sun penetrates only at noon, being otherwise kept out by the height of the numerous structures that lean from within upon the ramparts. These structures are intended for the lodgement

(Continued on Page 6.)

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## SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888.....	2,000
In 1892.....	21,157
In 1896.....	36,564
In 1900.....	94,191
In 1902.....	53,617

In proportion as the antagonism between classes within the nation vanishes, the hostility of one nation to another will come to an end.

## THEY CAUGHT HIS INSPIRATION.

Before us lies a copy of the Boston "Globe" of the 8th inst. It contains a report of the meeting held by the Rev. Alexander P. Doyle on the subject of "Socialism and the Relation of the Roman Catholic Church Toward Socialism," in the parochial school of St. Francis de Sales Church on Bunker Hill street. The report is sympathetic; as such, it is safe to consider it reliable on what happened, and here to be commented on.

Of all men, the Socialist is the last to deny Fr. Doyle the right to utter himself as he pleases on Socialism. The right of free speech includes the right to talk nonsense. Moreover, in these days—never again to be lost—of free speech and free press, the greater the nonsense and misrepresentation that a foe of Socialism—or one, who, as Fr. Doyle so elegantly described himself, is "down on" Marxian Socialism,—indulges in, all the better is the Socialist suited. The world is ruled by intelligence. Intelligent people will ascertain the truth for themselves. Out of their inquiry Socialism will come triumphant, and its detractors in sorry plight. With the Stone Age sociology of Fr. Doyle we, accordingly, have no concern. Our concern is with a matter of more importance, that happened at, and is inseparable from his meeting.

The Boston "Globe's" report narrates how, at the close of Fr. Doyle's address, "a man of about 50 years" rose and politely asked a question in which, however, dissent was implied from Fr. Doyle's assault on Socialism. And then, the report proceeds, "persons in the audience began to interrupt him (the questioner); one woman lost patience and exclaimed, 'Go home and talk that!' and cries of 'Put him out!' came from other parts of the hall." But it did not end there. That was but a prelude to more serious demonstrations. The report proceeds:

"As the crowd was surging from the hall the man who questioned the priest was pointed out as he reached the first stairway, and pushing from behind was begun by some young men, apparently schoolboys. This was at once stopped by a committee member in attendance. However, the young fellows hurried downstairs after the interrupter. Some one cried, 'Kill him!' whereat others laughed, but many youths rushed down the lower stairs after the fugitive. Once on the street they ran ahead of the crowd, pointed the man out to one another and began to cry 'Socialism!' and pelt him with snowballs. The man walked alone, looked behind several times and hurried down Bunker Hill street. The pursuit becoming menacing, and the gathering youths pelting the man from the opposite side of the street, he turned off to the right and hastened down the hill toward Main street. Here he was lost to view and the chase was over. Several older men along the street tried to dissuade the boys, but they followed the man with evident mischief in design and a good deal of bad language."

It must not be forgotten that Fr. Doyle did not lecture in a lay capacity. He lectured in his canonicals, as a representative of law, order, MORALITY AND RELIGION. It is not so much WHAT one says as HOW he says it. The what and how that Fr. Doyle was "teaching the young idea how to blow" with may be gathered from their cry of "Kill him!" the "bad language" and the "mischief in design" with which they—boys—pursued an inoffensive old man—an age that real morality and religion are inseparable respects for—and all!—

caught the inspiration of his breath, above and all around whom rose the shadows of attendant burning pyres, of stakes and of thumb-screws—held in leash by civilization, but ready to leap forward if the Fr. Doyle should—what happily is out of the question—ever get the upper hand again.

## ON THE MARCH TO THE POOR-HOUSE.

The personal tax list for 1904 in this city settles two questions: it settles the fact that Socialism is practically demonstrated a false theory, and it settles the fact that our millionaires, these much abused and traduced martyrs, are on the march to the poor-house.

For instance, there is John Jacob Astor. Last year he was assessed on \$2,000,000 personal property. This year his assessment is on \$300,000 only—in one year the deary is poorer by \$1,700,000! There is Robert Walton Goetz. Last year he owned \$500,000 worth of personal property, on which he was assessed. This year the assessors find him shrunk to \$150,000 only!

There is August Belmont. Last year the happy possessor of \$350,000, he is this year down to \$100,000.

Lo, the much traduced Rockefeller! While last year John D. Rockefeller, Jr., prided himself in \$500,000 personal property, he must this year be content on \$100,000 only, and his kin William Rockefeller, fared even worse: his \$1,000,000 of last year have since shriveled down to a miserable \$300,000.

And Alfred G. Vanderbilt! Just think of it! His last year's \$1,500,000 have dwindled down to \$250,000.

And so forth and so on.

These items should make good texts for Carroll D. Wright, Prof. Green Goods, Father Doyle and the rest of the self-sacrificing gentlemen, who are wearing themselves to a bone to make clear to the masses the errors of Socialism. The above items should silence the idle talk about the rich growing richer, and the poor poorer. If a millionaire of one year is taxed the next only on a quarter of a million personal property, is he not poorer by fully three-quarters of a million? And must not some other fellow or fellows have come into the possession of that \$700,000? And, seeing that "the trend is the pauperization of the rich," who but the poor got the spray?—The demonstration is conclusive.

And let every good Christian man and American patriot join in frowning down the pestiferous spirit, that, "always intent at discovering a nigger in the pile" may sneer at the above figures and facts, and build out of them a labored argument to show that the said figures and facts only go to prove how completely the rich own the government that they dictate assessments, how useless they are becoming that they even shirk taxation, and how dishonest they are that they make false statements.

## SETTING THE PACE.

We all know that "every boy can be President," and the chances for every boy to be a Congressman are about 480 times as great. It will, therefore, behoove every boy to study closely the conduct of the present Congressmen, and to apply the fruits of his observations to his daily life. Apparently, that is; but how about the reality?

The present fifty-eighth Congress, the model and pace-setter for ambitious Young America, is just now preparing to make a rich "grab." Prolonged by the action of the House itself, the recent special session of Congress ended at noon of Monday, December 7, and, in the afternoon, on that same noon of Monday, December 7, commenced the regular session of Congress now going on. For the three seconds between the two taps of the gavel which closed one session and opened the other—that same interval which was "constructively" utilized by President Roosevelt to promote Wood and some thirty-six other officers—the members of both houses of Congress sat quietly in their upholstered congressional seats. And now, bolstered up by the law, which says that "mileage shall be paid for each session of Congress," the House Committee on Appropriations, in response to the unanimous clamor from both houses, is about to report favorably on a clause in the Legislative Appropriation bill, providing for the payment of \$175,000 as indemnification for the "actual individual traveling expenses" incurred by the members while quietly sitting in the aforesaid upholstered seats! The members from nearby States, whose mileage, that is, share of the "grab," will be comparatively small, may virtuously raise their voice in protest; but not so the more distant men. Their efforts will send the bill through.

Let not Young America miss the les-

son and example. Here are men—shining examples, at that—well paid for their work at Washington, and generously paid for their expenses in getting there, making a strenuous attempt to become as generously paid for expenses which they never incurred nor thought to, and "long-headedly," "cleverly," "thriftily," "industriously," etc., etc., determined not to incur. Young America, if he follows his pacer, will now also try to receive pay for expenses not incurred by him. The older workers should follow suit. In short, the whole wage working class might try to fall into the habit of drawing revenues for work "done" by them while they were on a perennial vacation. As many of them will soon enjoy a long enforced vacation, the congressional example is timely.

It need not be said that the capitalists, merchants, and railroad directors in this pace-setting Congress would be among the first to discharge any of their employees who might attempt to follow their pace; but that's only because these employees, being as yet satisfied with a pittance of what they produce, have not yet learned the trick of their pace-setters—to get where they can appropriate "salaries and expenses" unto themselves.

## GOMPERS FALLS IN LINE.

It has been repeatedly shown in these columns that when the capitalist papers say that anything has befallen the nation, care must be taken to find out what part of the nation it has befallen. Is it prosperity? Then watch the Bradley-Martin balls and the cup races—the workingman gets none of it. Is it depression? Then the workingman gets it all, while the balls and races go on as before. In short, when the capitalist talks of good times, it is good times for himself; when of hard times, it is hard times for the laborer.

Like master, like man. Gompers, as president of an essentially capitalistic body, the A. F. of L., can not but talk in the same strain. A panic is at hand. That means hard times—but for whom? For the workers, of course. Witness Gompers: "All union men should prepare themselves for a depression by the exercise of frugality." It is not the capitalist who is forced to frugalize by a panic, but the worker. On the other hand, if any crumbs of prosperity remain, they belong of right to the masters. Witness Gompers again: "The National State per capita tax of the A. F. of L. should be increased." Of course, so that the "presidents" and other union officials—the representatives of the only-prosperity-enjoying capitalists—may not fall below their "station in life."

Gompers has done as he could not help doing, fallen in line with his capitalist employers, whom he apes on the pure and simple caricature scale.

## THE STEEL TRUST WAGE CUT.

The wage reductions that have taken place in the Steel Trust are full of valuable economic lessons. Aside from their size and widespread effect, illustrative of the magnitude of modern industry, and their demonstrations of the worthlessness of profit-sharing and co-operation, those makeshifts of capitalism, they once more vividly demonstrate the merchandise character of labor under capitalism. Due, as these wage reductions are, to the decreased demand for iron and steel, and the concentration of iron and steel mills, the first of which renders labor idle, and the second of which displaces it, they show that labor's price, or wages, is determined, like that of other merchandise, according to the law of supply and demand. When the demand for iron and steel was great, and all the iron and steel mills were taxed to their full capacity, the demand for iron and steel labor was also great, with the result that wages were higher than they are now, when the decreased demand for iron and steel, and the shutting down of useless mills are decreasing the demand for labor and augmenting its supply manifold, making wage cuts inevitable and resistance to them impossible.

While enforcing this general lesson, the Steel Trust wage reductions have enforced a specific one that is not unworthy of consideration, viz., the relation of skill and salaries to unskill and wages. There are many workers, far too many, who believe that under capitalism, the highly skilled and salaried superintendent or foreman, is something economically different from the unskilled and low paid employee who is his subordinate. They entertain the idea that skilled and salaried men are, because of their peculiar aptitudes and positions, independent of the capitalists and the laws of capitalism, and therefore not of the working class. They constitute an independent class, so these workers

argue, a class that is a sort of intermediary between the working and the capitalist class, as it were, and possessing capitalist instincts, tendencies and prerogatives.

The Steel Trust wage reductions should serve to dispell these wrong beliefs. The decreased demand for iron and steel and the closing of iron and steel mills, have rendered many superintendents and foremen idle and superfluous. The trust, acting upon the law of supply and demand for labor, and entertaining no illusions about their independence, has cut the salaries of the remaining superintendents and foremen to such a degree that, where resignations are not occurring, as in the case of a superintendent whose salary was cut from \$6,000 to \$3,000 a year, the superintendents and foremen are making common cause with the laborers in opposing the wage reductions, as is said to be the case at Homestead.

Thus it can be said that, these superintendents and foremen, being without capital of their own with which to employ themselves in competition with the trust, and unable to secure situations elsewhere, are compelled to unite with the laborers and rebel against the laws of capitalism which make merchandise of their labor, i. e., their skill and ability. In so doing they bring out clearly their close economic relationship with unskilled wage labor. They thereby show that the difference between skill and salary and unskill and wages, is one of degree and not of kind, one of multiplication rather than of economic essence. Both are wage slaves.

The lesson of the Steel Trust wage reductions is that labor, whether high or low, mental or manual, skilled or unskilled, is dependent on and exploited by the capitalist class, regardless of the differences alleged to exist between them. Only when Labor, mental as well as manual, skilled as well as unskilled, salaried as well as wage, owns and controls the capital of the land and produces for use instead of profit, will it be free from such exploitation and the economic law of supply and demand which makes it possible.

In Chicago, several Employers' Associations are opening employment bureaus where complete records of all men working for members of the organizations are kept, and most of the hiring will be done. Similar bureaus are in successful operation in Cincinnati, Detroit, Cleveland, St. Louis, and Worcester, Mass. Needless to say, the object of these bureaus is to balk the efforts of the trade unions and individual workmen to increase wages or improve conditions by changing employers and manipulating one against the other during demands for labor. Needless to say, that these bureaus will also be used to weed out the "agitators" by making it impossible for them to gain a livelihood by going from one employer to another when discharged in the first instance for obnoxious conduct. Despite these bureaus there are still some persons with assinine proclivities in this country who will get up and declare: "This is a free country. And if a workingman is not satisfied with his employer he can leave him for another, who will possess all the qualifications demanded!"

The re-election of Senator Hanna as his own successor to the Senate of the United States by the legislature of Ohio, did not take place, as the newspapers state on the 12th inst. Last fall, when the unclass-conscious workmen of Ohio, were coerced into voting Hanna's party into office, through fear that the corporations would resent the election of their opponents, by closing down and rendering them idle—it was then that Hanna's re-election occurred; it was then the decisive ballot was cast. It is a striking commentary on the man, who, because of his connection with the Civic Federation, is held to be "unique in sociology and humanity" that he owes his continuance in office to such conditions. And it is more of a striking commentary on the "sovereign American citizens," who were compelled to give it to him under those conditions. Away with the private ownership of capital which confers the economic power that makes such conditions possible!

There are some employers who fondly believe that "the open shop" means the close of the class struggle. The fact that opposition to wage reductions is now being largely and almost wholly waged by non-unionists, for whose benefit "the open shop" is maintained, is lost on the gentlemen. Open or closed shop, the class struggle will persist until capitalism, its cause, disappears.

The Social Democratic, alias "Socialist" party press, continues to snap and bark at Gompers, owing to his treatment of the "Socialists" at the Boston A. F. of L. Convention. Too cowardly to make a fair and square, stand up fight, it prefers to bark at the heels like a cur.

The Democratic National Committee has had to run from Chicago to St. Louis, in order to escape the influence of the Hearst boom. Where will the Social Democrats, alias "Socialists" run to, in case Hearst captures the Presidential nomination?

## BREWERIES ON TOP

Every sensible man has somewhere on the tablets of his mind a broad margin, on which to enter the facts that experience furnishes him on matters that he has not yet made up his mind upon. Eventually these gathered facts are numerous and strong enough to enable him to arrive at the correct conclusion. On that broad margin on the tablet of the minds of the vast numbers of those who are watching the duel that is going on between the Socialist Labor Party and the so-called Socialist, alias Social Democratic party, can now be entered a fact that is valuable on the subject of the sort of organization that a bona fide Socialist organization requires. The fact in this instance is furnished by the figures (and the manner in which they were obtained) that defeated a recent motion in this State to transfer the seat of the State Committee of the Social Democratic party from New York to Rochester.

The motion came from outside of New York city; 1,103 votes were cast, and New York and Brooklyn alone polled 571 votes, that is, 19 votes more than the absolute majority, and carried the day.

Who is it that came out on top?—Three breweries!

There are three nerve centres in the organization of the New York Social Democracy. They are: the Brooklyn Labor Lyceum, the New York Labor Lyceum and the Eighty-sixth-street (New York) Emporium—all three out-houses of, or feeders for breweries with which they "do business," to which they are deeply mortgaged, and who have a dollars-and-cents interest in seeing the places boom—that is, consume the largest possible quantity of the dirty domestic stuff. A motion to transfer the headquarters from New York quickly touches a sensitive nerve in the pockets of the breweries in question. So did this motion. With the beer-trade-hustling State Committee away, prospective drinkers might, could or would not gather as numerously. The whip was cracked, and the hustlers hustled. The Volkszeitung Corporation started to work; its German organ, the "Volkszeitung," issued editorially the order to vote against Rochester; its English poodle, "The Worker," suppressed protests against the manner in which meetings were called to agitate against Rochester; and the scores of "genossen," who, as employees of the three beer centres, are but employees of the said breweries, stirred their stumps to "get out the voters." Thus, with the "organs of the party" taking a stand against the motion; with rafts of the party's "genossen," essentially employees of the breweries, getting up bogus meetings against Rochester; and with post-ponings of the date of closing the ballot, so as to whip the voters of the city in line—with all that, the beer breweries were aided in defeating a motion that could only have tended towards the purification of a concern, whose rottenness cries to heaven.—No wonder calls are now coming up for a recount. It seems that, besides all the above corrupt methods, fraud took place also in the counting. No wonder—corruption breeds corruption.

What happened was inevitable. As well expect to bore Socialism from within the capitalist parties, as expect to bore Socialism cleanliness from within a body that, while aiming at public ownership, allows itself to be a vest-pocket counter of a private publishing concern. By allowing its organ to be the private property of the Volkszeitung Corporation—a corporation that can and does stick its tongue out to the party—the Social Democratic party has constructed its organization in defiance of Socialist principle. As a result, private capitalistic interests get their clutches upon its members, through these become vocal and active in its councils, and presently away the party obedient to the impure interests of self—as has just happened again with the Social Democratic party in this Rochester matter.

According to reports from Chicago: "After a strike of sixteen weeks, that tied up every plant in the United States, the typefounders have been ordered back to work by their international officers. The men asked an advance of 12 1/2 per cent. When they walked out the proprietors of the type-making shops were unable to get other help, so thoroughly was the craft organized.

"The members of the union in Chicago were dismayed to hear the instructions from their superiors yesterday, believing that they had practically won their battle. The orders were heeded, however, and committees were named to meet the employers to-morrow to arrange for the return of the men."

It would be interesting to know what is behind this. Is it another case of "graft" for calling off strikes?

The use of dynamite by the Helms interests in the Montana conflict with the Amalgamated, or Rockefeller, interests, goes to prove the old saying that two can play at the same game. When Rockefeller first used dynamite on his standard Oil competitors, he paved the way for the time when Helms would use it against himself.



Brother Jonathan—Whatever much you may think of your Socialism, I don't think much of it.

Uncle Sam—That certainly is a great misfortune.

B. J.—Socialism is not humane enough for me.

U. S.—What is humane?

B. J.—Communism.

U. S.—How do you make that out?

B. J.—Isn't the motto of Socialism "To each according to his needs?"

U. S.—Say it is.

B. J.—Well, Communism's motto is "To each according to his needs." I call that infinitely more humane.

U. S.—Apart from the relative humanness of the two mottos, I would say that you are wasting your love on phrases of no practical importance.

B. J.—Isn't it practical whether the movement one associates with is a harsh or a kind one?

U. S.—True enough. But all that has no application to the case. It is not a question of willingness or unwillingness to be kind; the question is one of power to be kind.

Now, see here. If you have five children, all equally strong, healthy and intelligent, and the smallest amount of human being can get well along with one dollar a day, and all that you make, all that you can make, is two dollars a day, could you, with these two dollars a day, income, furnish one dollar a day apiece to your five children?

B. J.—No.

U. S.—You would be short three dollars a day, even if you could get along with nothing.

B. J.—Couldn't do it.

U. S.—Could you justly be said to be harsh, inhuman and all that because you do not provide for your children "to each according to his needs?"

B. J.—Why, no; if I can't, I can't.

U. S.—Just so. Now, suppose, again, you have five children, four of them healthy, strong, intelligent. One dollar apiece is needed by them; and a fifth child, that is a cripple and sickly, and he, to be kept at all comfortably, would need five dollars a day. Your income is seven dollars a day. What would you do then?

B. J.—It still won't go round.

U. S.—Could you afford the crippled child five dollars a day?

B. J.—That would leave only two for the other four, not counting myself. No, I hardly could.

U. S.—You would let the well ones have less than one dollar, so as to afford the cripple a little more, but yet he would not be treated "according to his needs," eh?

B. J.—No; but that would not be my fault; I could not do better.

U. S.—Now, let us suppose a third case: You have five children, all five healthy, robust, intelligent; three dollars a day is needed to keep them up; your income is one hundred dollars a day—

B. J.—How much?

U. S.—One hundred a day.

B. J.—I wish it were fifty; I wish it were twenty-five; I wish—

U. S.—Never mind what you wish; it is only an illustration. With that amount of revenue, would you keep your children down to an expenditure that is "according to their needs?"

B. J.—No; I'd let them have more.

U. S.—Just so; and why?

B. J.—Because I could afford it.

U. S.—Now, that's all that there is in these mottos. If it is not a case of humanness in the one nor harshness in the other. The one which you call "humane" proceeds from and toward an aspiration, regardless of the material power to carry it out; the other, which you call "harsh," proceeds from the material powers, and accommodates its aspirations to the capacity to reach them. Do you understand?

B. J.—I—I—think I do.

U. S.—Now, then, whether in society each shall have according to his deeds or according to his needs is a question that depends wholly upon the capacity of production of that society, and that, again, depends wholly upon its mechanical development and social arrangement.

When, at the time these mottos sprang up, there was some justification for them. The one "to each according to his needs" was an aspiration that sprung to the other extreme of the wrong it saw; it saw excessive wealth enjoyed by those who needed it not, while others in need pined; as a revulsion of feeling, it demanded for each "according to his need," but this was a case of feeling only; it did not stop to consider that, even if excess were lopped off at one end, there might not be wealth enough for ALL, "according to their needs," while the "harsh" motto, keeping this fact in mind, insisted on its method.

To-day, one may well say that the issue between the two mottos is a volcano burned out. It has no more real importance. It is known that the wealth producible to-day is so large that each can have enormously more than his needs. The mechanical development of production has thus removed the basic difference of the two mottos. In so far as the one represented "Communism" and the other "Socialism," the two are one to-day. Your objection is back-numberish.

The National League of Commission Merchants declare that the Armours are seeking to control the fruit trade. The Armours long ago decided to concentrate all the branches of the food industry. Judging from the outrages of the stockmen, the dairy interests, the commission merchants and the cracker bakers, heard from time to time, they are carrying the decision into effect in a quiet, steady, persistent manner. The Socialists wish them luck. Such slow, careful, cementing of one branch of the food industry with another can only result in the creation of a solid concentration. Such concentrations, in their turn, are necessary preliminaries to the final concentration of all giant industries in the Socialist system.

The United Mine Workers of the Pittsburgh district (bituminous) have voted to assess each miner in the district \$2 each week. The money is to be paid the miners at Leesburg, Pa., employed by the United States Steel Corporation, to fight a reduction in wages. It now remains to be seen if this move will be successful. It means considerable to the miners. A reduction in Central Pennsylvania would be followed by reductions in all the States of the Middle West. It would also have an important bearing on the anthracite situation in 1906. With those successful destroyers of pure and simple unionism, Rockefeller and Fricke, now in control of the Steel Trust, the outlook for the United Mine Workers is not at all promising.

Pennsylvania builders are uniting against unions. They are going to prevent strikers in one town from securing work in another. It goes without saying that these employers believe in "free labor," i. e., labor that they are free to exploit, and that should be free from trades unionism, so that they can exploit it so much more advantageously to themselves.

The independent oil producers in the Saratoga, Batson Prairie Sour Lake and Spindle Top fields of Texas perfected arrangements for an organization to compete with the Standard Oil Trust, which it is said, has virtually controlled Spindle Top and, with its pipe lines, almost controls Sour Lake field. With fifteen independent firms and individual owners in the new fields at Batson Prairie and Saratoga, the big trust has been cut out, they say.

This method of cutting one trust out by forming another, must be a harrowing pastime to the producer who is excluded from either. It is amusing, however, to the man who sees in it the constant work of concentration. When these "independents" get big enough the Standard Oil Trust will end their little trust by attaching it to its own. As a promoter of trusts, the anti-truster of the above kind, is to be commended. He is helping industrial evolution along by cutting himself, and not the trust, out.

Over two thousand applications for jobs on the barge canal have been filed with the State Civil Service Commission. This looks as though the man were hunting the job again, and starting to do it mightily early.

The New York Times, discussing the Steel Trust's new profit-sharing scheme, says, anent the cancellation of subscriptions to stock under the old scheme, by 15,000 workmen:

"What is happening confirms the conviction which most manufacturers share, that the wage-earner is a poor stockholder."

It would be more to the point to say that he is not a willing dupe. The wage-earner objects to receiving dividends that are less than the wage reductions to which he must submit. The opposing interests of capitalist and laborers make him object to a scheme which only accentuates the wage exploitation to which he is subjected. In that is the secret of his poor qualities as a stockholder.

## CORRESPONDENCE

THE WEEKLY PEOPLE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTERS AND ANSWERS. THE EDITOR WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTERS AND ANSWERS. THE EDITOR WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTERS AND ANSWERS.

## "SOCIALIST" COMPROMISE IN SCHENECTADY.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—A new phase of "compromise" on the part of the S. D. P. was presented in our city just prior to the late election. We are compelled to place it before the readers of our press to show that the membership of that party, when in nomination, is as the organization is at every turn, as crooked as a "ram's horn."

There is published here, like in many other places, what is called a labor paper, "The Labor News," and like all others, an "official journal" of the faked bodies. According to rumor, our old friend (?) Hank Jackson, is in control of the editorial and labor news part. This part of the paper, rest assured, amounts to nothing, because it doesn't pay. All the merchants who are solicited to advertise are told what a very large circulation "The Labor News" has among the laboring element, and to what an extent their interests would be benefited by ads. in the paper. In this matter, as in all others, the fakirs are very careful to make clear how deeply interested they are in promoting the interests of everybody but their own class.

Hank was the candidate of the S. D. P. for Mayor, and, being in control of this sheet, felt compelled to use it to get votes. When the matter was brought before the Trades Assembly a strange condition was met. The president of the Assembly was the Democratic nominee for County Clerk. So, if Hank Jackson was to be advertised as one whom the voters should vote for, then Mr. Frost, the aforesaid nominee, must also be taken care of. The only way out of this dilemma presenting itself was for the Assembly to pass a resolution which, in substance, endorsed all candidates on every ticket who were members of trades unions; and, where two or more members on different tickets for the same office appeared, to let the members do as they pleased. How simple; and so just to all concerned.

The number of city and county offices to be filled was thirty-one, and of the nominees of the Democratic party there appeared just one—Alderman Frost, candidate for County Clerk and president of the Trades Assembly. Right here the question might be asked: Were there no other trade unionists on that ticket? There were not only no trade unionists, but no workingmen. All, with but one exception, were little business men—contractors, auctioneers or real estate men. The Republican party was fortunate in having two, and, both being members of Hank's union, of course it was another case of "What's the constitution between friends?"

The great and only Hank, with the S. D. P. had done great baring from within. All, or nearly all, their candidates had their names in "The Labor News" with Republican and Democratic nominees. This is just as it should be, because there is no difference between all of them.

But—and there was in this case, as many others, a big but—candidates on the S. L. P. ticket to a large number—five from one union, the molders, would have to be taken care of in some manner or the rank and file would see through their little joker. So at the bottom of this list of "union men that are candidates for office at the coming election" there was put forth this bait: "Any candidate whose name may have been omitted, that belongs to a labor organization, will confer a favor by notifying E. Utting, Box 3." Of course, from our position there was no difference in any of these parties; and it caused a smile, for we knew that the fakirs were again up against the "excuse." It is surprising how often and in how many different positions the "dead" S. L. P. strikes. Now, to publish the names of the S. L. P. candidates who were members of unions could not be done. To publish them without an understanding would give the men a chance to strike hard and show up the corruption of the S. D. P.'s once more, but in a little different manner.

This was not the only thing that took place just prior to election. The automobile (as one of our comrades terms the automobile) man was in our neighborhood, and great was the sensation to all. As Fieldman, in a strong voice, belated out S. L. P. phrases and condemned the labor misleaders and all fusion and compromise, you would hear the S. D. P.'s muttering: "Well, the S. L. P. fellows cannot object to them." Yet at that very moment Hank, the supposed leader of that crowd, with all the other candidates, were put forth, together with Democratic Frost and Republicans Fenwick and Luckhurst, for the workers to support. The crooked, deceitful and treacherous actions of the S. D. P.'s are so many and so varied that to follow them in their excuses would give a fellow a good drunk.

The record of Frost, as presented by the Democratic official paper, in stating why workingmen should support him, is as unique and ridiculous as any that ever came down the pike. For instance,

it is startling. For just one year continuously he endeavored to get the city to build a street down what is called the "Klondike path" to the General Electric Works, for the workers to get to work. If we were to present the official record of the proceedings of the Council we would make clear the fact that you could not recognize Frost as a workingman. As to the two Republicans, no better can be stated.

With election day came the counting. All are familiar with the result. "Great gains by the S. D. P.'s." But when we understand only one of the many reasons for the gain we can understand what a little mist the old lady will have to sweep back next election.

The convention of the Workingmen's State Federation, held in this city during last September, showed clearly an idea that had struck the rank and file to a little extent. Judge O'Brien had been nominated by the Democrats and endorsed by the Republicans, but as he had declared unconstitutional a pet measure of the labor fakirs, they therefore decided they would hit him hard by voting some other ticket. A showing had to be made, and, of course, they could not select the Prohibition ticket; they would prefer either one of the old parties—"De Leon's Party," so they killed two birds with the one stone; they answered the "boring from within" of the S. D. P.'s and got even with O'Brien by voting the S. D. P. But what a miserable showing for all the crooks and fakirs and luncheads! In this city, with its 12,000 trade unionists, as claimed by this sheet, the protest against O'Brien and the "boring from within" netted the sly and sneaky S. D. P.'s just about 400 votes, or an increase of about 270.

We will have something to say with reference to the strength of the union and the actions of the labor fakirs, since the crisis struck our city, in our next letter that will be interesting reading. It will prove how far right the S. L. P. is in its attitude of fighting the misleaders of labor.

The path of the fakir on the economic field, as well as upon the political field, is set with thorns. With capitalists now demanding of the fakirs that service for which little favors had been shown them in the past, in forcing them to fight the rank and file who are inclined to kick against the reduction of wages and the wholesale discharge of the members of the unions, and the capitalist papers, Democratic and Republican, creating "labor" columns, and the practical politicians of both parties recognizing labor sentiment and mouthing labor phrases, we can see the end of them.

Let the S. L. P. and S. T. & L. A. keep up the work of knocking down all shams and frauds, and make clear the vision of the workers as to the proper course to follow.

Schenectady, N. Y., Jan. 10.

## PIERSON IN CALIFORNIA.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed you will find list of subs. taken at El Paso, Tex., for the two days ending December 30. I held one very successful meeting, selling sixteen books and distributing a good quantity of leaflets, which were eagerly gobbled up.

I stopped off at Finlay, Tex., and spent a very pleasant day with Comrade Dowler and family. He showed me the miserable huts the Mexicans wage slaves, who work for the Southern Pacific Railroad at the magnificent wage of from 40 to 50 cents per day, live in.

Arrived in Los Angeles yesterday noon, and since my arrival have met mostly all of the local comrades.

As there is an ordinance prohibiting street meetings in this city, we have made arrangements to hold one in the headquarters of the section tomorrow (Sunday) evening.

While here I will reside at the S. L. P. Hotel, the only one, I believe, of its kind in this country. Comrade Haller is the proprietor, and he accepts as guests only those who are members of the S. L. P.

Section Los Angeles has excellent headquarters located in the heart of the city. Their reading room is well supplied with a good stock of S. L. P. literature, which is well patronized by the wage workers of this city and those who come here broken down in health, caused by unhealthful workshops and other conditions of this glorious system of capitalism.

Will be here a few days; then work towards San Francisco and hope for continued success. Fraternally yours, Charles Pierson, Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 2.

## ENROLLMENT MISTAKES IN "CITY RECORD."

To The Daily and Weekly People:—On getting the City Record, with the list of enrolled voters, I find that I am put down as an S. D. P., although I enrolled as an S. L. P. I also find other mistakes, such as "Dayton, Chas., 124 W. 124th." Said Dayton is a former member of the Twenty-third A. D., and his address should be 174 West 135th street. "Grass, Frank Y., 174 W. 134th street." There is no 174 in 134th street. "Kara, Geo., V., 109 W. 135th street." There is no 109 in 135th street. "Grayman, James, 227 W. 134th street." I believe this belongs to the Thirty-first A. D. "Waller, Edward, 107 W. 124th street." There is no 107 in 124th street.

"Williams, G. D., 187 W. 184th." Same as the foregoing. Kindly publish, as I do not like to have this stand against me.

N. Zollinsky, Twenty-third Assembly District, Fourteenth Election District, New York, Jan. 11, 1904.

## SECTIONS BOSTON AND NEW YORK. How About This? Is Salt Lake City Going to Beat You?

To The Daily and Weekly People:—We did not reach the 125 mark set for us for the two months ending December 15, but we came near it—108. If we had not had an exceptionally early fall we would have surpassed even this figure. We know how to get subs, but you cannot hold people's doors open or track snow into their houses and get their good will in the winter time. Someone has got to do some hustling in the spring or a little western hamlet is going to have a place on our reading list far ahead of some of our big cities; perhaps Boston or New York City is not too far in the lead, either.

If someone will push the work and get the "habit" of asking for subscriptions they cannot fail to succeed.

Comrade James P. Erskine got the pin offered by Comrade Evans, it being a very close race between Erskine, Evans, Allen and Anderson, Erskine leading by one only. Yours fraternally,

A. G. Allen, Salt Lake City, Utah, Jan. 1.

## DAILY PEOPLE AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—As my subscription to The Weekly People will soon run out, I wish to change to The Daily. As I have enjoyed capitalist "prosperity" for three months now, I find it a pretty hard matter to find enough money to carry out my wish. But I will cheerfully do some fasting rather than do without The People, therefore you will find enclosed \$1, for which please forward The Daily People for three months, when I hope to be able to renew.

With heartfelt thanks for the bright light you have thrown on my formerly dark path, I wish you more of that power which is the mark of the S. L. P.—the power of high principle and true logic.

C. W. Lundberg, Stonington, Conn., Jan. 7, 1904.

## THE HOMESTRETCH FUND.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—Find enclosed \$20 for the Homestretch Fund. From Comrades Brearcliff, \$5; Fund. From Comrades Brearcliff, \$5; Graff, \$7.50; Le Belle, \$5; Farelee, \$1; McCormick, \$1.50.

If we did not do it all last year, we can do it this year. It must be done if it takes the rest of the century.

It must be done, and we of the S. L. P. must do it.

This makes \$82 to date. We have \$32 more pledged.

Wm. McCormick, Seattle, Wash., Jan. 5, 1904.

## II.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—Enclosed please find \$2 for the Homestretch Fund—J. K. Johnson, \$1; Henry Kaufer, \$1. If ever the Socialist programme as set forth by the S. L. P. needed help it needs it now. The S. L. P. press, Daily, Weekly and Monthly, is the most essential force in the movement, in my observation.

I find that the capitalist class has more respect and fear for our S. L. P. press than for that of the many named S. P. The capitalist class only smiles when the press or the movement of the S. L. P. is held up to them. They say: "We can manage the 'Socialist' party people better than we can you S. L. P. men. You won't do business with us, and the 'Socialist' party men will." Now, that is not guesswork on my part. It actually happened to me.

Yours for pure S. L. P. politics, Henry Kaufer, Red Lake, Falls, Minn., Jan. 11, 1904.

## CONTRIBUTORS, BE ACCURATE!

To The Daily and Weekly People:—I have seen a couple of letters from Albert Waterman of Dorchester, Mass., in The People, and I wish to say, his figures are wrong. Waterman had one in The Daily People of Jan. 7, in which he said: "Three-fourths of the English workingmen die paupers." In the bulletin issued by the Labor Bureau at Washington, and written by Graham Brooks, it says: "Forty-five per cent. of those over sixty-five years in England receive public aid."

Again, Waterman had a letter in The People some months ago, giving the amount produced by each worker, where the figures were so much out of the way, that we thought it must be a typographical error. I know it is hard for The People to keep track of all letters, but it would be a good idea to watch those of contributors making mistakes.

Lynn, Mass., Jan. 13.

## II.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—I have noticed on various occasions where the term "Government Ownership" has been used in The Weekly People; and in the issue of Dec. 26, in the correspondence from the Australian S. L. P., the term "nationalism" was used in the lower half of fourth column.

Now, as they have considerable "nationalized" property in Australia, which, of course, does not benefit the wage slave, I move that it is time to criticize the use of the terms, as there are lots of superficial readers, thinkers and ob-

servers, who may take it for granted that the "nationalization" term used by the S. L. P. means simply an extension of the present "Government Ownership" system that they already have there.

And, as I said in the fore part of this criticism, I would advise the discontinuance of the indiscriminate use of the term "Government Ownership," unless the proper specification of what kind (of Government—) follows, as we have a government-owned postoffice, at least, supposed to have, and superficial people here are liable, aye, apt, to think the S. L. P. means simply to extend that kind of ownership and thus class the S. L. P. with the Social Democrats, Kangaroos, and the Lord knows what not movement.

A Reader, Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 12.

## CONDITIONS IN NEENAH, WISCONSIN.

To The Daily and Weekly People:—There are very few Socialist Labor Party men in this town at present. The Social Democrats have a branch here, and I think they cast some sixty odd votes here last election. They have some speakers here now and then. They have had within the last year or two as speakers at various times, such men as Carl D. Thompson, Webber from Milwaukee, Winfield Gaylord, Klein and Edwards.

There was a man here last fall by the name of McSweeney, trying to arrange for a lecture from the elephant, Haggerty; but he failed on account of the price. He could not get graft enough. There is no doubt in my mind that the members of the "Socialist" party here are mostly honest men and are ignorant of their position, and an address from a Socialist Labor Party speaker would create havoc in their camp, and I hope the time is not far distant when it will happen. Respectfully yours,

C. A. Boehm, Neenah, Wis., Jan. 11.

## TO EXPOSE "IL PROLETARIO."

To The Daily and Weekly People:—The Italian Section, S. L. P., of Kensington, Conn., at the regular meeting of December 27, after discussing the attitude of "Il Proletario" against the S. L. P., as inaugurated by a few so-called intellectuals, and the act of bossism used by the central committee of the federation in sending congratulations to the S. D. P. for the stand taken at the Boston convention of the A. F. of L. in the name of all the federation, came to a conclusion to urge the N. E. C. to print a brief documentary history and tactics of the S. L. P. and the S. T. & L. A. in the Italian language and in pamphlet form, to be sold at 5 cents each, to show our difference from the Kangaroo and their stupid tactics.

Alexander De Sandri, Secretary, Kensington, Conn., Jan. 11.

## A CALL.

To the Sections of the Socialist Labor Party—Greeting:

In accordance with Article VII, Section 3, of the Party constitution, you are herewith called upon to make nominations for the place where the national convention of the Socialist Labor Party for 1904 is to be held. The nominations made must be reported to the undersigned not later than February 10, 1904, and will then be submitted to a general vote of the Party membership.

Organizers of Sections will please see to it that this call is read at the next regular meeting of their respective Sections, and that the nominations made are promptly reported to headquarters.

The Section being the unit of organization, each Section can nominate but one city. There is no need of reporting the vote cast; the simple statement that the Section places in nomination a certain city is sufficient.

For the National Executive Committee, S. L. P.

Henry Kuhn, National Secretary, New York, Jan. 2, 1904.

New York, Jan. 2, 1904.

Secretaries of State Executive Committees, take notice!

Your attention is herewith called to Article VII, Sections 2 and 3, of the Party constitution, which read as follows:

Article VII, Section 2:

"The State shall be the basis of representation, each State to be entitled to one delegate for every one thousand S. L. P. votes cast at the State election preceding the National Convention, and to one additional delegate for a major fraction thereof. Any State having one or more Sections and polling less than one thousand votes, or polling no votes at all, shall be entitled to one delegate; a territory to be treated as a State."

Article VII, Section 3:

"The National Executive Committee shall call for nominations for the place of the convention in January of the convention year, and the State Executive Committee, in transmitting the call to the Sections, shall call for nominations for delegates, the nominations to be submitted to a general vote of the Sections (in each State), with instructions as to the number of candidates each member has a right to vote for."

The call for nominations of the convention city having been issued by the N. E. C., the State Executive Committees must be prepared to act in accordance with the foregoing provisions and properly prepare for the election of delegates to the National Convention.

For the National Executive Committee, S. L. P. Henry Kuhn, National Secretary.

## LETTER-BOX OFF-HAND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

NO QUESTIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED THAT COME IN ANONYMOUS. NO LETTERS AND ANSWERS MUST CARRY A BONA FIDE SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS.

A. J. LADNER, B. C.—Owing to the culpable neglect of the proofreader, the first three words—the use value—of the fourth sentence were omitted from the answer to you in last week's issue. The omission renders the explanation obscure, if not unintelligible. The below is the corrected answer:

Are you not weak on your Marx? The only principle of political economy that Marx declares expressly that he is the discoverer of—and a pregnant discovery it is—is the principle of the "use value" quality of the merchandise labor-power, along with its "exchange value." The "use value" of corn is to feed; of clothing to impart warmth (in winter); of diamonds to please; and so forth—qualities that are irrespective of their "exchange value." The "use value" of the merchandise labor-power is that it produces more wealth than its exchange value (THE THEORETICAL WAGES) AMOUNTS TO. Consequently, taking up your instance, if under given conditions, and working ten hours a day, a working man produces one lamp, the lamp represents an amount of wealth that consists of two parts: one part, the wealth paid to the workingman as the "exchange value" of his labor power (his theoretical wages) and which must reappear in his product; and another part, which consists of the new wealth, the increased amount of wealth, the yielding of which is the use value of the merchandise labor-power, and for the sake of which quality, or use value, it is at all bought by the capitalist. It follows that, if the workingman produces one lamp, the value of his total product is, besides the "exchange value" of his labor-power, the new value yielded by its "use value"; if, with better machinery and the same ten hours, he produces five lamps, the value of his total product is now—besides the "exchange value" of his labor-power, just as before—the five times as large new value yielded by the now five times as fruitful "use value" of his labor-power. And so on. Thus, the more the workingman produces, the larger is the value of his total product. Hence it is that—seeing the capitalist purchaser of the merchandise labor-power appropriates, as every purchaser does, the full "use value" of the goods he purchases, labor-power in this instance—all the new values and the increased production, that improved methods, make possible, go to the capitalist, while the workingman remains with his nose to the grinding stone, where he is bound to remain, so long as labor-power, which means himself, remains an article of merchandise—that is, so long as capitalism lasts.

Is this clear? Answer if it is. Answer also if it is not.

C. S. J., EAST ST. LOUIS, ILL.—For technical reasons no Party announcements intended for The Weekly People can go in that is not in this office by Tuesday, 10 p. m. preceding the date of publication. Your notice reached here Wednesday morning.

M. S., NEW YORK—How a bona fide Socialist in Congress would act if a "child labor bill" is introduced? He would refuse to allow himself to be hamstrung by capitalist parliamentary chicanery. He would tear the hypocritical mask from the face of the bill and prove that it is but a vile device—under the guise of reform—to concentrate the principle of child labor—the heinous principle that saps the nation's vitality and recognizes the propriety of exploiting the child. True, such a proposition would be, at first, hard for popular understanding, and would raise a howl. But the alternative is to run the revolutionary spark into the ground. Socialism is not here to act as godfather for capitalist chicanery.

"CURIOUS," LYNN, MASS.—There is none other. Shall keep the matter in mind and endeavor to secure an article on the subject.

M. T. B., LYNN, MASS.—I. The lecture, "The Burning Question of Trades Unionism," is to be re-delivered in Paterson, N. J., and will be published in these columns as soon as it can be put in shape.

2. No argument can enlighten a man who is in the fix of one of Saxe's "Six Wise Men of Hindoostan."

A. H. S., LINCOLN, NEB.—The first estate consisted of the nobles (feudal landlords); the second estate consisted of the clergy (the benefited clergy, not the ecclesiastics who combined in their persons feudal seigniories and ecclesiastical functions); the third estate consisted of the bourgeoisie, i. e., the bourgeois, the townsmen. A property qualification attached to this station. The third part of the serial "The Pilgrim's Shell," now running through The People, and entitled "The Commune of Laon," will give you a correct conception of the station of the bourgeoisie. The proletariat was wholly ignored. Any work on the Middle Ages deals with the subject. Carlyle's "French Revolution" also takes it up. So, of course, does Hallam. You will find the third part of "The Pilgrim's Shell" most satisfactory on the subject.

J. D., NEW YORK—If February had as many days as the other months, the year would not be astronomically correct. It would then cover fully two days longer than it takes the earth to revolve around the sun. Even so the time is not astronomically accurate. But the inaccuracy is so trivial that by adding one day to February every four years the defect is cured.

2. "Why any president of the United States inaugurated on the 4th of

March?"—There must be several words omitted from the sentence. As it is it is unintelligible.

T. W., CHICAGO, ILL.—All our vows must go out to the German Social Democracy. We should wish it God's speed. Germany is to-day pivotal in Europe on the anti-feudal march. The success of the Social Democracy, bourgeois radical only as that success would be, would bring the rest of Europe, Russia possibly excepted, abreast of France. That can be an advantage only to civilization. It is a long step towards Socialism. In these days of close national interrelation, the march of Socialism is clogged, even in this country, by the backward conditions in other countries.

M. M., DETROIT, MICH.—1. This office does not feel justified to take up six or more columns of the paper with and article of that description, without orders from the N. E. C. It will, therefore be submitted to the N. E. C. for its decision, without argument on our part.

2. If you keep a file of The People you will find, long before 1894, the argument made that the economic and political development of the United States point to it as the country called upon to lead in the overthrow of capitalism.

T. R. A., CINCINNATI, O.—Take, for instance, the unemployed. They number millions. The census takes no note of them, except in the total population. Then also, numerous are the census categories that conceal the proletarian status of the man. In this city there are hundreds upon hundreds of "lawyers." They are all censused as such. Yet, rafts of them are proletarians, inasmuch as they are hired men in some big lawyer's office. There are in this city law offices with no less than fifty such "lawyers"—actual clerks, proletarians. And so on.

J. W. McP., KANSAS CITY, MO.—It all depends upon a correct understanding of the word "scab." A "scab" is he who will aid the capitalist to lower the wages of workmen in the bona fide endeavor of these to improve their condition. It follows that a "scab" may and may not have a union card. If a Union is so organized that it is but the caricature of competing capitalists, and it acts like a dog in the manger, keeping workmen out, such a man comes fully under the scab category.

S. E., ROCHESTER, N. Y.—If ever a pure and simpler tells you "the S. L. P. is tyrannous," you just ask him to produce his Union constitution. You will find in there, somewhere, something to the effect that he may not discuss in any way anything detrimental to the officers of the Union. That's tyranny for ye!

T. C., OMAHA, NEB.—2. It was in the issue of March 9, 1903, of "The New York Socialist and Trades Union Review"—a Social Democratic publication that was started, as it expressly stated, because the papers of the Volkszeitung corporation, "Volkszeitung" and "Worker," suppressed and mutilated the party's news, and that was promptly stamped out of existence by the corporation—that the report appears of a speech of Slobodkin, alias Slobodin, telling the English element of the Social Democratic party that they should sit at the feet of him and his fellow corporationists.

L. F., NEW YORK—Not so! The luxury indulged in by the capitalist is not necessarily a result of "vain ostentation." It often is that, but not always, nor even generally. It is a necessity of his business. Most capitalists are like a row of bricks, leaning one on the other. Each has to "keep up his credit" with the other. Without credit, their business halts. Now, then, their ostentatious displays—horses, carriages, opera boxes, country villas, etc., etc.—are intended to lubricate the purse-strings of the others toward him. If he were to curtail the others would soon suspect his solvency, and he would get into hot water.

W. H. M., DALLAS, TEX.—All "Kangaroos" are S. P., alias S. D. P. men; but all S. P., alias S. D. P. men, are not "Kangaroos." Kangaroos are only that set of men who, being in the S. L. P., and knowing themselves a minority, played in 1890 what is known in the West as the "Kangaroo trick," stood on their hind legs, called themselves the S. L. P., deposed everything in sight—and got bounced for their impudence, just as the Western Kangaroo courts are treated. Whatever we may think of your course, it does not constitute you a Kangaroo.

M. B. T., BRIDGEPORT, CT.—You don't know what a "fellowship" is? You must be a very recent reader of The People. Some men of funds in the S. P., alias S. D. P., established a "fellowship" for "young and deserving" members of their party. But instead of passing the fund over for the party itself to administer, they kept control, and thus ran the "young and deserving" members whom they bestowed the fellowship upon, and the others whom they held the lure of the fellowship out to. And thus the "fellowships" ran the "fellowships," the actual and prospective, and enthused them for the "liberty-loving" S. P.—Do you catch on?

B. M., PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Socialism is a doctrine of economics, mathematical in its fundamentals, like a statistical or astronomical table. As such, Socialism has nothing to do with religion, nor religion with Socialism, anymore than astronomy has to do with

religion, or religion with astronomy—but no less either. Religion means several things to several people. There are people whose religion is severely shocked by the astronomical fact that, towards the earth, it is the earth and not the sun that moves. To such people, the facts revealed by astronomic science is atheism, is free love and is subversive of the State. So likewise there are people whose conception of religion is shocked beyond measure at the fact revealed by Socialism, to wit, that the private ownership of the modern means of production is the ownership of goods produced by Labor and stolen by the capitalist class, and that such private ownership has for its inevitable result, the degradation of the people, crime, immorality, and national disaster. He who goes about with eyes open can not but laugh when he sees the upholders of the capitalist system, which treats like a beast of burden the workingman, "made after the image of God," ranting against "atheism,"—it takes capitalism to promote truly raw-boned atheism; or declaring that Socialism means free love,—when we see prostitution acknowledged a necessity by capitalist savans; or charging Socialism with destroying the nation,—when capitalism pauperizes the masses and thus brings on the conditions under which no nation can stand. While the religions that issue from the Bible—Jewish and the multitudinous Christian ones—draw their tenets from a time when Socialism was an economic or material impossibility, all the moral tenets uttered by the Psalmists, the Prophets, Jesus and the Church Fathers brand as utterly irreligious or immoral the practices of the capitalist system. As to the Christian clergy, when to-day—in these days when the material possibilities are abreast of the aspirations of St. Augustine and St. Basil—they uphold capitalism, and resist Socialism, they are but the re-incarnations of Chaiphah of old.

S. T. L., ST. PAUL, MINN.—Prof. Mills can not thus be disposed of with one word. No, indeed, he could not be admitted into the S. L. P. He is "too broad" for that. But the man has good features. He has a sharp nose. And it is not to be denied that he has scented out the fact that his party is run from the Volkszeitung corporation's office. Give him credit for that!

E. H., NEW YORK—The English translation of Bebel's "Woman" will be in book form this month. Price \$1.

"SOCIALIST" NEW YORK—Drop words and be practical. 'Tis a matter easy to test. Just move at the next general committee meeting of your Social Democratic party that the Volkszeitung corporation be called upon to surrender its plant, etc., to your party. You will then find out. The Corporation heels will howl you down; they will call you all sorts of names; among others they will yell at you: "Ein echter Amerikaner!" (a genuine American), which in their parlance means "An all around scamp." Just try it. The press is either the tool, or it is the master of a body. To be the tool of a body, the body must own it; if the body does not, then the press owns it. Your Social Democracy is a vest-pocket counter in the Volkszeitung Corporation's vest-pocket.

W. W., NEW YORK—What answer Max Hayes made to the exposure of his false statement that wages had gone up? Let's think!—Oh, yes, he answered that De Leon had drowned his own grandmother, or something equally to the point, truthful and conclusive.

J. R., VANCOUVER ISLAND, VICTORIA, B. C.—1. Get from the Bible Society a well-indexed edition of the Bible. 2. The New York "Irish World" is the only religious or semi-religious journal that makes a specialty of church relations to Socialism. 3. The New York "Truth-Seeker" works in that direction.

"X. Y., FITCHBURG, MASS.—"Troubles in the S. L. P.?" Lots of them! And there will be worse. And the S. L. P. will come out on top every time. What happens in that respect periodically in the S. L. P. is bound to happen in all organizations. In all organizations there are periodical explosions of gases. But look at your own concern, the S. P., alias S. D. P. There it is not the normal, healthy explosion of evil gases that periodically gather in all bodies. There it is a continuous, unremitting row.

W. G. M., INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—We are utterly unable to tell what Hearst is after. We can not imagine that he really expects to capture the Democratic nomination; nor, making full allowance for the vanity of a young and blase millionaire, can we quite believe that he is spending all that money for mere notoriety. Perhaps the Pops may run him, the sane S. P., alias S. D. P. element endorse him. Will know all about it by this time next year.

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